

Leyland's new chief offered job before Dobson resignation

Mr Michael Edwardes, whose appointment as British Leyland's full-time chairman was announced yesterday, was offered the post six weeks ago, before the resignation of Sir Richard Dobson, his part-time predecessor. The National Enterprise Board had decided that the motor group needed a full-time leader. Mr Edwardes was chairman and chief executive of the Chloride Group until yesterday.

NEB takes more direct control

Mr Michael Edwardes, chairman of the Chloride battery group, who is to be the new full-time chairman of British Leyland, was offered the job three weeks before the resignation of Sir Richard Dobson, his part-time predecessor. The National Enterprise Board had decided that the motor group needed a full-time leader. Mr Edwardes was chairman and chief executive of the Chloride Group until yesterday.



Michael Edwardes arriving at the Chloride headquarters in London yesterday shortly after the announcement that he is to be the new chairman of British Leyland.

Post mortem shows Steve Biko died of brain damage

From Nicholas Ashford Johannesburg, Oct 25 The final post mortem report on the death of the South African Black Consciousness leader, Mr Steve Biko, has revealed that he died as a result of brain damage, according to informed medical sources. The damage occurred over a period of eight days before Mr Biko's death and was not all suffered at the same time.

EEC ministers choose Culham for JET

From Michael Hornsby Luxembourg, Oct 25 After nearly two years of dispute, EEC energy and research ministers agreed in Luxembourg today to site the Joint European Torus (JET), the Community's thermonuclear fusion project, at Culham, Oxfordshire.

Unemployment down 11,600 to mid-October

By David Blake Great Britain fell by 11,600 in the month to mid-October to reach a seasonally adjusted level of 1,377,100 (6 per cent of the workforce) among the adult population. Unfilled vacancies for adults, which are often regarded as a good prediction of the way employment is moving, rose by 8,500 to reach 151,400 after allowing for seasonal variations.



Saif Bin Ghobash: The bullets were meant for another.

Airport gunman kills minister

From Ann Fyfe Abu Dhabi, Oct 25 A United Arab Emirates minister was shot and killed today by a gunman who tried to assassinate Mr Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister.

Economy may get £1,000m boost today

By George Clark Political Correspondent The Chancellor of the Exchequer is expected to speak for 30 minutes when he outlines his economic measures in the Commons today.

Blackouts as power men work to rule

By Donald Macintyre Labour Reporter Short power cuts took place yesterday because of an unofficial work-to-rule and overtime ban by several thousand electricity workers.

Thorpe answer tomorrow to 'damaging allegations'

By Fred Emery Political Editor Mr Jeremy Thorpe, the former leader of the Liberal Party, is to make a statement answering what he calls "damaging and misleading allegations" tomorrow afternoon.

Shares code directors

announced by the Stock Exchange company directors from dealing in their own companies for two years before the announcement of preliminary financial results.

Warning on mergers

Mr Ian Gave a warning on company mergers, saying that he seemed to be a game of corporate musical chairs.

In plea to miners

Mr Secretary of State for Energy, in the dispute over the productivity scheme in the coal industry, has called on miners to vote for the scheme, which is opposed by left-wing militants.

School religion stays

Government does not intend to change to remove from schools the teaching of religion to all pupils of school age, Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said.

W German call to fight terrorism

President Scheel of West Germany appealed to world leaders to unite against terrorism. Speaking at the funeral of Dr Hanns-Martin Schleyer, the West German industrialist leader who was murdered by terrorists, he said that if terrorism was not quickly overcome "it will spread like a conflagration over the whole world."

Fewer immigrants

The number of immigrants settling in the United Kingdom appears to be falling, according to Home Office figures. Acceptances for settlement in the second quarter of this year were 17 per cent lower than in the same period last year.

Cold mouse of Metz

A mouse, which built a winter home on the warm engine of a Fiat, got tangled up in the works and cost the owner £750, has been the central figure of a court case in Metz.

Concorde passes test

Concorde has come through its trial take-offs and landings at Kennedy airport, New York, without its noise level approaching the permitted limit of 112 decibels. The authorities are not expected to try further to stop the services.

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The world's first bottled scotch.

Dewar's were the first to sell whisky in branded bottles. Example circa 1865. From the collection of Mr. L. Martin.

For those with a taste for the original.

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HOME NEWS

Fewer immigrants now settling in Britain, official figures show

By a Staff Reporter

The number of immigrants settling in the United Kingdom appears to be falling, according to figures released by the Home Office yesterday. They show that total acceptances for settlement on arrival in the second quarter of this year, while higher than in the preceding quarter, were 17 per cent lower than a year earlier. In the first quarter of this year acceptances were 32 per cent down on a year earlier. For the second quarter 17,546 immigrants were accepted, against 21,113 in the second quarter of 1976. Of that figure, 9,900 were accepted on arrival in the United Kingdom and the remaining 7,646 on the removal of the time limit.

The number accepted on arrival from the Commonwealth dropped in the year by 27 per cent from 4,374 to 3,193. The main categories contributing to the drop were United Kingdom passport holders (down by 39 per cent), citizens of India (down by 41 per cent) and citizens of Bangladesh (down by 17 per cent).

The Home Office said such decreases reflected a reduction in the number of entry certificates granted overseas to dependants of sponsors in the United Kingdom. They also reflected a reduction in the number of United Kingdom passport holders arriving under the special voucher scheme.

The only main citizenship group within the Commonwealth for which acceptances for settlement on arrival were higher than a year ago was the relatively small but growing

group of citizens of the Old Commonwealth, from countries including Australia, Canada and New Zealand. The figure was up by 40 per cent, to nearly 1,400.

The number of foreign nationals accepted on arrival was 8 per cent higher in the second quarter than in the same period in 1976.

The Home Office said that acceptances for settlement on removal of the time limit were 21 per cent lower for Commonwealth citizens and 14 per cent lower for foreign nationals. A big factor in the reduction was the introduction earlier this year of amended rules whereby men were no longer granted immediate settlement on marriage, but instead generally had their stay extended for a period of up to 12 months.

The number of work permit holders and dependants admitted in the second quarter was also lower than in the same period last year. The Home Office said that 184 illegal immigrants were detected in the second quarter.

Mr George Paine, Registrar General for England and Wales, yesterday described as unfounded allegations made in the diaries of the late Richard Crossman that Mr Paine's predecessor, Mr Michael Reed, and some of his staff wanted to publish statistics relating to immigrants that were distorted by their political bias. He said: "Those who know Michael Reed can have no doubt about his integrity and I would like to affirm my confidence in the complete impartiality of my staff."

West Indians complain about educational slur

By Our Education Correspondent

West Indian teachers in Britain are angry at the assumption, which they consider implicit in recent government reports, that educational failure is the norm for children of West Indian origin. The Caribbean Teachers' Association has complained to the Government.

Mr C. Mungo, a member of the association and editor-designate of its newsletter, has written to *The Times*: "We regret most profoundly the prevalent practice of discussing children of West Indian origin in negative terms, especially in the context of education."

The association saw danger in creating the image that educational failure was the norm for such children. It said continued propagation of "unfair" assumptions damaged black children's self-respect and reinforced British teachers'

"destructive" low expectations of them.

"It disturbs us greatly that the Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration in their recommendations, and the Department of Education and Science in its consultative document on teaching West Indian children, seem to subscribe to this prejudice. The whole tenor of their papers seems to assume that children of West Indian origin and underachievement are synonymous."

The association agreed that children of West Indian origin seemed to be less out of the British education system than any other definable group. But the reasons for that, Mr Mungo said, should be sought in the disadvantages and loss of opportunity suffered by those children in some quarters. Children of West Indian origin did succeed in schools where conditions were favourable.

'Evil' kidnapper is jailed for 10 years

A sales manager was sentenced at Cardiff Crown Court yesterday to 10 years' imprisonment for kidnapping one of his staff and, it was said, treating him "worse than a dog".

Justice Watkins told Clifford Jones, aged 35, of Cliffoch Avenue, Cardiff, that he was one of the most evil men he had ever sentenced.

The court had been told that Mr Jones had kidnapped Larry Titmus, aged 26, a salesman, and threatened to torture him to make him confess to stealing gramophone records worth £11,000. At the time Mr Jones had been on remand, charged with theft.

Mr Titmus was kept prisoner for 70 hours; most of the time he was tied spreadeagled to a bed or locked in a car boot.

Mr Jones, it was alleged, threatened to burn him with an electric iron and dump him in concrete excavations.

Mr Jones admitted kidnapping and imprisoning Mr Titmus and attempting to pervert the course of justice by forcing him to write three bogus letters confessing to the theft of records. He was found guilty of stealing the records from Record Merchandisers, of Hayes, west London.

Beer on Monday

The Transport and General Workers' Union has agreed to begin supplying beer to the Fox and Goose public house, Birmingham, on Monday, according to a statement by the union.

Servicing of the dispensing equipment will start on Friday.

N Devon link road plan

Proposals for the 34-mile north Devon link road, from the M5 near Sampford Peverell, Tiverton, to Barnstaple, were published yesterday by the Department of Transport.

The new road is intended to overcome traffic and environmental difficulties along existing routes by providing a more direct route from the M5 into north Devon.

Poison recovered

A chemist at Bexley, London, had enough poison to kill 12,000 people returned to him anonymously during a campaign for disposal of old medicines.

Dr O'Brien backs continued direct rule for Ulster

Northern Ireland should remain under the control of the British Government, Dr Conor Cruise O'Brien, a member of the Irish Senate, said yesterday.

"It was the only solution tolerable to both communities," he told a meeting of the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London.

Dr O'Brien, a former minister who lost his seat in the Dail in the general election, was elected to the Senate in August.

He resigned from the republic's Parliament after his controversial assertion that

Man in the news: Mr Michael Edwardes, the new chairman of British Leyland

Businessman who has proved his flair, drive and ability

By Peter Hill and Malcolm Brown

Mr Michael Edwardes, who revived the flagging fortunes of one of the world's leading battery manufacturers, faces the unenviable task of performing a similar task for the ailing British Leyland.

His career until his appointment yesterday as full-time chairman of the state motor company, in succession to Sir Richard Dobson, suggests that he will place great emphasis on delegating responsibilities to his senior colleagues and attempt to imbue them with the same sense of enthusiasm and drive that he possesses.

He once said: "Plans, however ambitious, can be achieved, first if they are quantified, second if a time scale is put to their achievement and third if you get your executives chipping away at

each detail of that plan so that a part of that plan is one man's particular baby."

Mr Edwardes, who is 47, was born in Britain but spent many years in central and southern Africa and served for 26 years in various jobs within the Chloride Group before being appointed its chief executive five years ago. Just before assuming the top position in the company, which supplies about a tenth of the Western world's demand for batteries, he moved two of the group's operating divisions from loss to profit-making.

Like the star who spends years in repertory before being "discovered" overnight, Mr Edwardes spent a hard apprenticeship in Chloride outposts to emerge in 1975 as *The Guardian's* Young Businessman of the Year.

Many in the City would say that that award was more than justified. Three months ago, Chloride returned a pre-tax

profit of £26.4m, 37 per cent above the previous year's performance. Six years earlier the group's pre-tax figure was £4.9m.

Government ministers and the National Enterprise Board, of which he has been a member, clearly hope that he will be able to perform a similar feat at British Leyland. But Mr Edwardes is a man who holds strong views on what is wrong with British industry and what should be done to improve its performance.

Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, will find him a plain speaker, a man not afraid to question and challenge government directives and policies.

Seven months after the launching of the Government's industrial strategy directed at bringing about the regeneration of the manufacturing industry base he bluntly told the Government that he was being asked to work on the assumption that the country had a

strategy; in his view it had no such thing. There was a national objective and there were guidelines, but no strategy.

He has also been critical of the Government's interventionist powers on prices, arguing that the Price Code effectively ensured that industry would not be able to improve its profitability in line with the upturn in the economy.

He has been equally critical of British Leyland's financial system, which, in his view, has suffered entrepreneurial failure. Last year he said that if the country continued to lose its best technicians and engineers investment would follow the talent overseas.

It is because of those provocative and controversial views that Mr Edwardes has endeared himself in recent years to producers of television discussions and business documentary films.

His frequent scolding at the

Government has not prevented him from becoming involved in the more conventional activities associated with the "business establishment", including the economic development committee for electrical engineering, the Queen's Award Review Committee, and the British Institute of Management.

Apart from his business commitments, which will much increase from the beginning of next month, Mr Edwardes has managed to find time for sailing, water skiing and tennis. He is said to be a fanatical squash player.

He can be expected to take an early and critical look at British Leyland's plans for the future, and will undoubtedly have some trenchant views on what should and must be done to breathe life into the group. He believes that big improvements in productivity, even an increase of three tenths, are not impossible.

Ministers at odds on education

By Michael Hatfield

Mrs Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, and Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, who are to attend a Cabinet meeting tomorrow to discuss the final contents of the Queen's Speech, have disagreed over an education Bill that Mrs Williams wants to introduce in the next parliament.

Mr Benn, however, has complained that as the draft proposal stands there is danger that it might be construed as reintroducing the concept of grammar schools through the back door. He says the measure might lead to first-class and second-class comprehensive schools in certain areas, particularly where there is a preponderance of middle-class families.

Mrs Williams has replied that Mr Benn misunderstands the intentions and effects of the proposal she has in mind. She is understood to have support from the rest of the Cabinet.

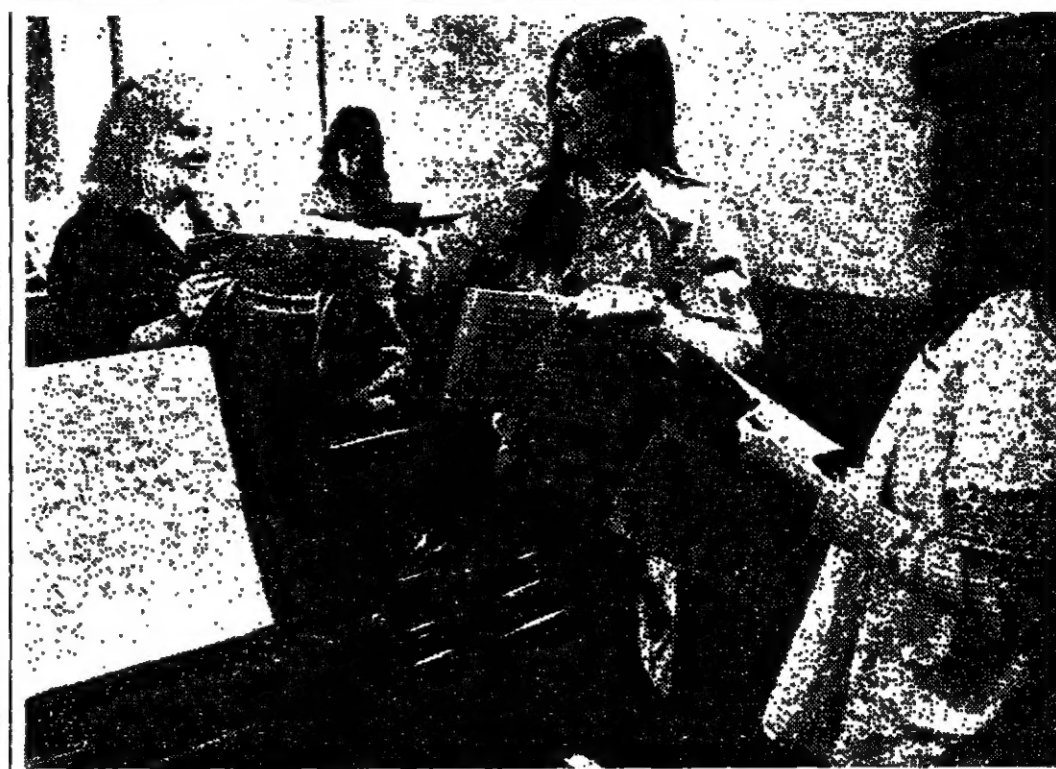
Last night, however, ministers were casting doubts on whether there will be room for the Bill in the Government's legislative timetable, primarily because Commons business will be largely taken up with the two main constitutional Bills on devolution and direct elections to the European Parliament.

Although all Cabinet ministers with departmental responsibilities have sought at least one Bill in the Queen's Speech, they realise that many of them will be disappointed. One of the main purposes of the Cabinet meeting will be to agree the order of priorities in the draft Queen's Speech.

Police sergeant demoted

Sergeant Christopher James, aged 31, of West Midlands police, who tried single-handedly to uncover a drug smuggling ring and was arrested but acquitted, has been demoted to constable.

After a chief constable's inquiry he has lost rank for breaches of police procedure.



Professor Geraldine Peppin with two of her piano students at the new Guildhall School. Report, page 21.

Successful women say husbands are not jealous of their earning power

By a Staff Reporter

More than half a sample of 316 women in senior management positions earned as much as or more than their husbands, according to a survey published yesterday. But less than a fifth of the women interviewed thought that their higher salaries caused domestic friction.

Successful career women expect their husbands to change jobs and move home to further their wives' careers, the survey showed. But the divorce rate is high and more than a fifth of the women in the sample were either divorced or separated.

Most of the women were convinced that their wives have sexual relationships with colleagues at work. One commented that a senior woman manager had to be "like Caesar's wife, above reproach". Another advised career women to be a "person first and a woman second".

The report is published by the Alfred Marks employment bureau. Most of the women in the survey said they found no difficulty in combining their working commitments with their

domestic and social lives. More single or divorced women than married ones complained that they found it hard to do so.

Most felt that their chances of promotion were reduced because they were women. Competing with men had made them abnormally "tough", according to 38 per cent of those interviewed.

Nearly half admitted to resorting to feminine wiles to get their own way at work, on at least one occasion, and two thirds felt that few women had the capacity of the desire to hold senior posts in their companies.

But the advent of the contraceptive pill meant that long-term decisions could be made about planning a family. That enabled women to undertake further education and pursue a career.

There was relatively little support for the aims of women's movements. Only 4 per cent were actively involved, while 34 per cent were positively against the women's liberation movement.

Mr Bernard Marks, chairman of the Alfred Marks Bureau, said yesterday: "It is time we took down the barricades against women in British board

rooms. Executive women still have a long way to go to overcome masculine resentment and prejudice, and they still have to be better than men to achieve equivalent status."

The bureau was satisfied that the survey was representative as the executives came from many different businesses, varying from fashion to engineering.

Professor Ivor Mills, Professor of Medicine at Cambridge University, said yesterday that he was not surprised at the findings of the survey. He recently issued a warning that successful career women are susceptible to hormone imbalances and maintained that the price of success for a woman might be thinning hair, aggression and the loss of sex drive.

Professor Mills commented: "It is obvious from some of the cases I have studied that disruption of the family does occur where the wife is successful. In my experience successful wives do not only keep sex out of the office, some keep it out of the home as well."

Professor Mills has advised women who show signs of stress to work less and rest more.

Women at the Top (Alfred Marks Bureau Ltd, Statistical Services Division).

Support for man behind Dobson tape

Colleagues of Mr Peter Cooper at the Tottenham Neighbourhood law centre, north London, defended him yesterday in the face of demands for an inquiry about his access to confidential information. Mr Cooper admitted on Tuesday that the tape-recorded Sir Richard Dobson's words "speaks as a vindictive character."

Sir Richard later resigned as British Leyland chairman.

Mr William Blackburn, nominated by Haringey council as a member of the management committee the Tottenham law centre, accused Mr Cooper of "damnable hypocrisy".

He said: "If there was any suggestion that he was acting in the same way in connection with the centre I would not hesitate to demand his resignation."

But in a later statement the law centre's management committee said it had full confidence in Mr Cooper's integrity. The statement, signed by Mr David Pennock and Mr Peter Lambert, committee joint chairmen, said: "His recent actions in his own time have no bearing on his day-to-day work at the centre, although we obviously support any stand that may be made against racism."

Mr Cooper's professional dedication and his respect for confidentiality in his work at the law centre have never been questioned. Any suggestion of any lack of integrity or ability in his work is, in our view, entirely unfounded.

Mr Cooper complained last night that since he admitted tape-recording the Dobson speech "a bitter campaign has been mounted against me". He added: "I wish to protest against the witch-hunting tactics of the recent actions of myself and of my family by sections of the popular and local press."

"My decision to reveal the contents of Dobson's speech, as I have stated on numerous occasions, was determined solely by the political context in which it was revealed."

Mr Cooper said he had been dismissed by Southwark council, south London, for "phony" reasons after taking part in the 1974 Red Lion Square demonstration against the National Front. He said he was arrested for assaulting a policeman during the demonstration and was sentenced to three months in prison, but the sentence was suspended on appeal.

"The charge I denied and continue to deny," he said.

Final plea for a safe nuclear industry

From Pearce Wright Whitehaven

A programme of research make a safer nuclear energy industry emerged from unlikely source at the W scale public inquiry yesterday. It came in the final address Mr Raymond Kidwell, QC, venturing the Friends of Earth, one of the main opponents.

Mr Kidwell suggested course of action for the ultra disposal of active waste, work on corrosion characteristics of nuclear fuels that overcome some of the difficulties facing the industry.

The observations came after a request by Friends of the Earth for delay of up to 10 years regarding proposals to build new type of plant to reprocess waste nuclear fuel at Windscale, Cumbria, which could not safely burn any nuclear waste.

Mr Kidwell presented eight-point argument to justify those assertions. He argued that the processing of spent fuel was not needed immediately as the best way of dealing with waste was to separate and distribute plutonium from reprocessing the scale proposed would be used in determining industrial effort to control proliferation of nuclear weapons.

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Car crushed

Mr Stephen Clay, aged 20, of South Devon, near Exmouth, was killed yesterday when his car, a 1974 Morris Minor, was crushed by a lorry near Rotherham yesterday.

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Janneau Armagnac is an ordinary French brandy like Debussy is an ordinary French songwriter

Janneau
Grand Armagnac
Ordinaire it is not



هنا من الامبل

Uproar over attempt to ban steward

From Our Correspondent Oxford

Uproar followed a move yesterday to ban Mr Alan Thorne from a meeting of 200 fellow shop stewards of the Transport and General Workers' Union at Leyland's car assembly plant at Cowley.

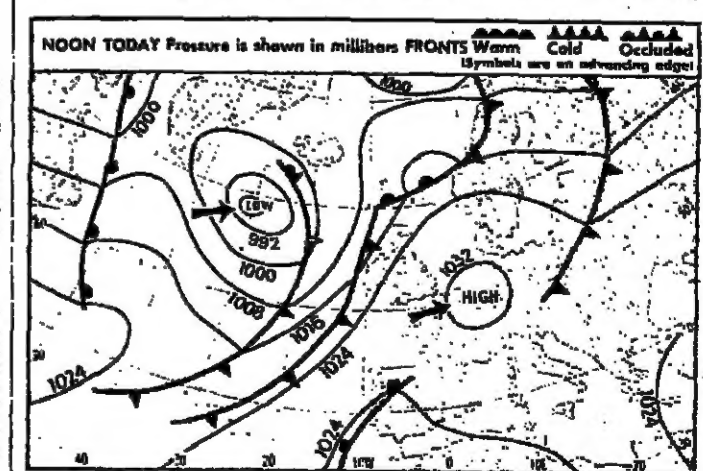
Mr Reginald Parrott, the union convenor, sought to ban Mr Thorne, a steward in the factory's transport department, from the meeting, which had been called to discuss the ban on Leyland's proposed reforms.

The men all stopped work when they heard of the attempted ban and invaded the meeting.

Mr Peter Boyles, a steward, said he was lodging a complaint against Mr Parrott's "unconstitutional conduct".

Neither Mr Parrott nor Mr Thorne has yet spoken of the incident.

Weather forecast and recordings



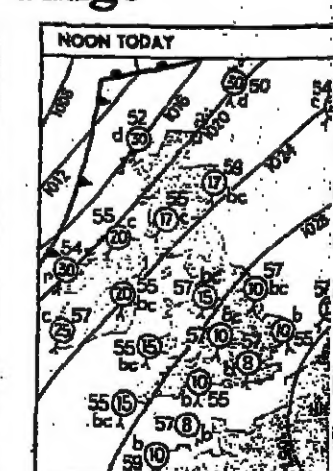
Today
Sun rises: 6.43 am. Sun sets: 4.45 pm.
Moon sets: 3.58 am. Moon rises: 4.43 pm.
Full Moon: 11.35 pm.

Lighting up: 5.15 pm to 6.15 am.
High water: London Bridge, 7.13 am, 7.3m (24.1ft); 1.34 pm, 7.3m (23.8ft).
Low water: Avonmouth, 6.42 am, 13.0m (42.7ft); 7.0 pm, 13.3m (43.5ft).
Dover, 10.28 am, 6.5m (21.5ft); 21.00 am, 10.22 am, 6.5m (21.5ft).
Bull, 5.19 am, 7.3m (23.8ft); 5.49 pm, 7.3m (23.8ft).
Liverpool, 10.42 am, 9.1m (30.0ft); 10.57 pm, 9.3m (30.4ft).

Forecast for 5 am to midnight:
London, SE. Central S. East and Central N. England, East Anglia, Midlands: Dry, mist and fog at first, sunny spells later; wind S, light; max temp 15° or 16° (59° to 61°F).
Cheshire, Lancashire, Wales, NW, NE, and SW England: Dry, fog patches; early, sunny intervals; wind S to SW, light or moderate; max temp 14° to 16° (57° to 61°F).
Lake District, Isle of Man: Dry, bright intervals; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 14° to 15° (57° to 59°F).
Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee: Wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 13° to 15° (55° to 59°F).
SW Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands, Murray Firth, Argyll, N Ireland: Mainly dry at first, some rain later; wind SW, fresh; max temp 13° or 14° (55° to 57°F).
Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Many parts will be dry and warm at first, but clouds spread SE later.

Sea passage: S North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel: fair, r. rain; s, sun.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.



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Final plea
for a
safe nuclear
industry

"We think ourselves lucky if we fall into a trap."

Geologists are eternal optimists.

"You have to be", declares Alastair McArthur. "If you're not, you'll never drill a single well".

The optimism doesn't come easily, given the £3.5 million cost of a North Sea 'wildcat' — the initial exploration well drilled in an area — and 1-in-5 odds it will find oil or gas. Even a 'successful' well is no guarantee of success; in the North Sea, most wells which do find oil or gas do not find enough to make the well commercially valuable.

Alastair McArthur is one of a team of Mobil geologists and geophysicists who help narrow the odds before a decision is made to drill an exploratory well.

Seismic vessels crisscross the area under investigation, firing harmless sound 'guns' and recording the sound waves as they bounce off rock formations thousands of feet beneath the sea bed. From the results of these and such other studies as gravity and magnetic measurements, the geophysicists create a 'map', like the one opposite, of the rock formation structures.

The geophysicist's job is to outline the shape of the structure. The geologist has to interpret the shape to determine if it contains the three elements needed for oil.

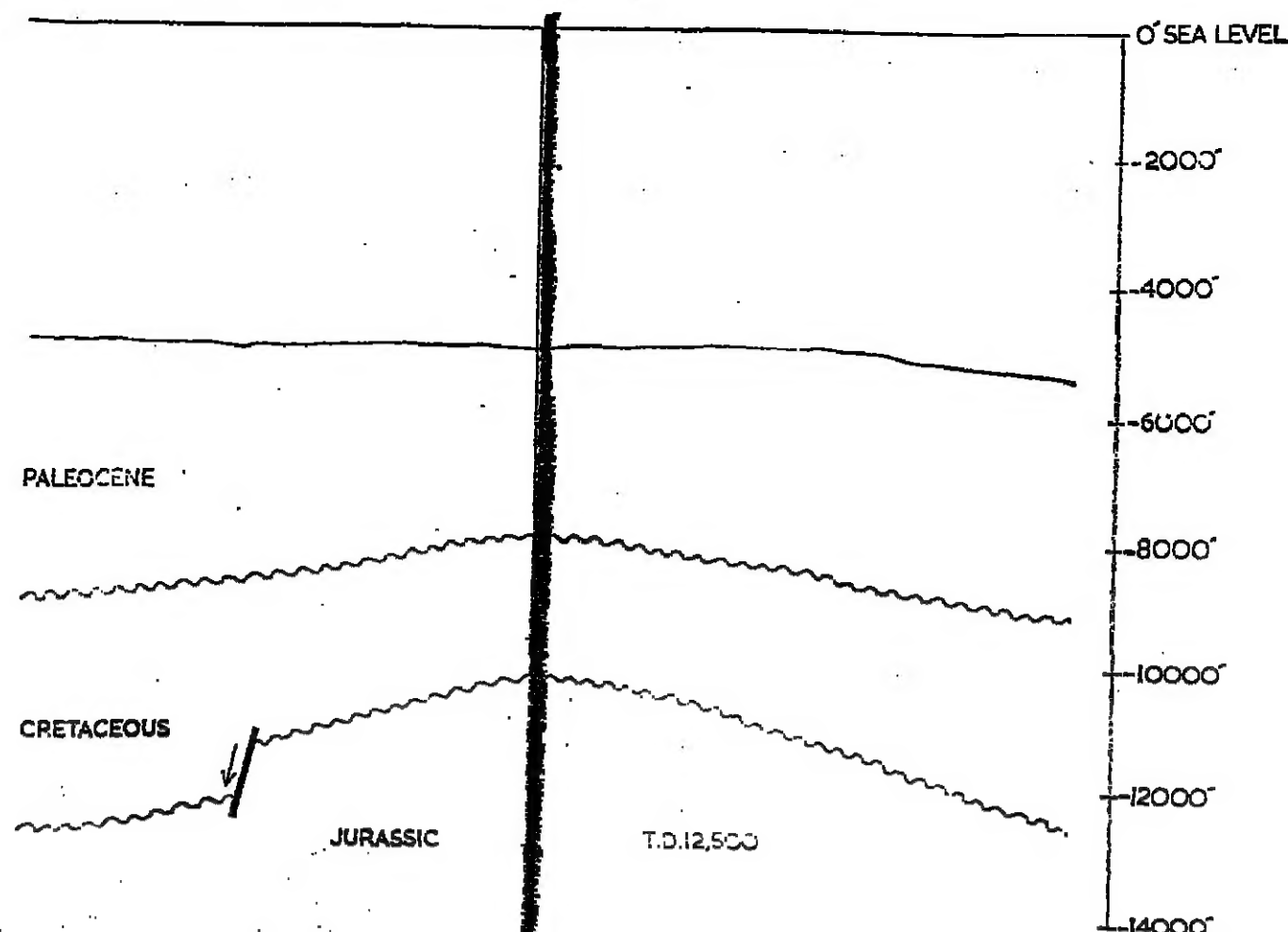
"For oil to be present in a structure", explains McArthur, "there must be a source rock in which the oil could have formed, a reservoir into which it could have moved, covered by a solid rock 'lid' to hold the oil in the reservoir. This happy arrangement of rocks is the 'trap' that may be found by a combination of hard work and good luck".

In many parts of the world, where intensive drilling has already taken place, geologists can use information about nearby rock formations to increase the prospects for success of additional wells.

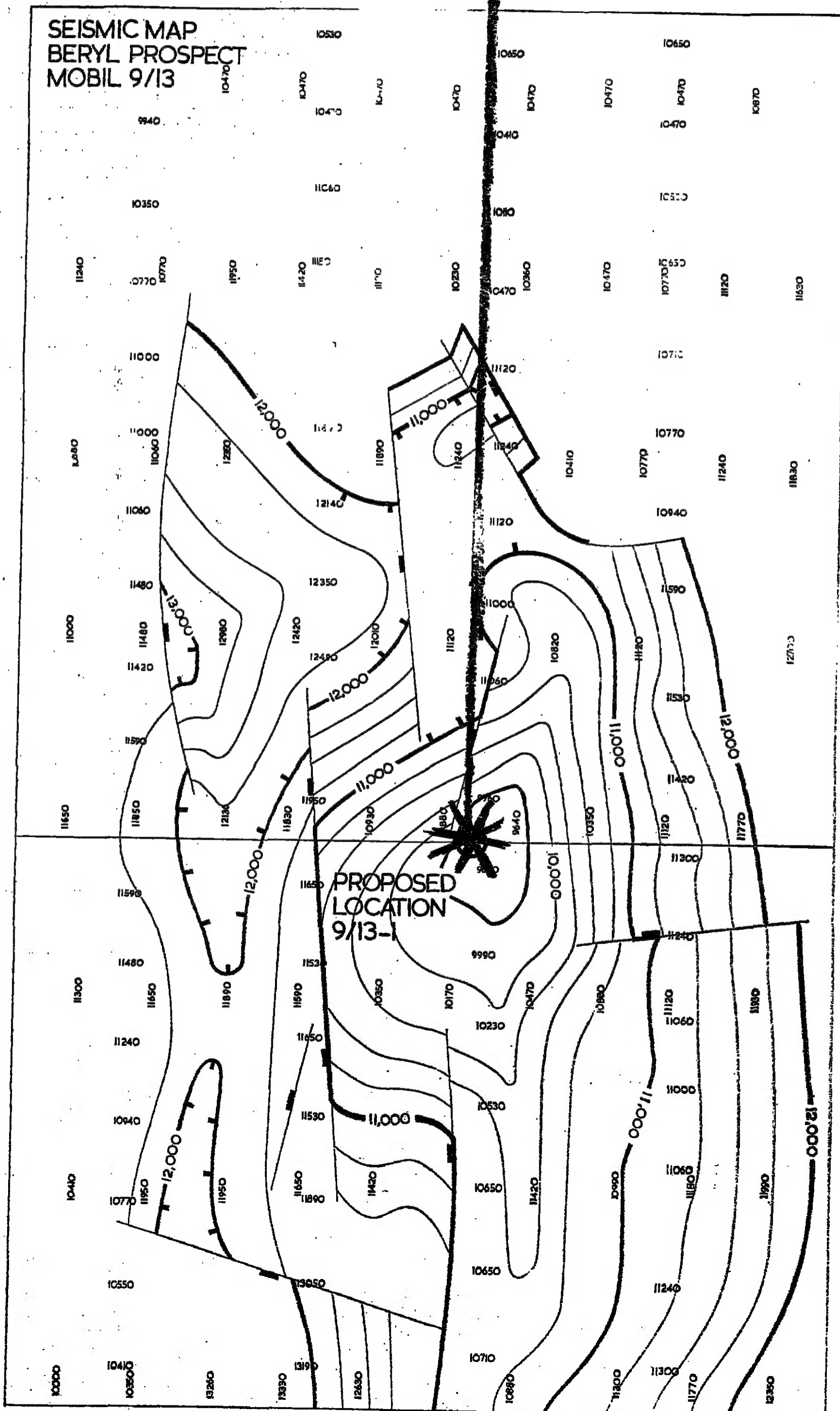
But the North Sea is so vast that — even after more than a decade of drilling — the wells in some areas are so widely spaced as to be of little help in planning additional drilling.

It is in these areas, particularly, where the skills and optimism of geologist McArthur and his Mobil colleagues are needed to keep us falling into traps.

PROPOSED WELL
LOCATION 9/13-1



SEISMIC MAP
BERYL PROSPECT
MOBIL 9/13



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HOME NEWS

Religion to remain obligatory in schools

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

The Government has no intention of changing the law to remove from schools the obligation of teaching religion to all pupils of compulsory school age.

Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, made that clear in a luncheon "dialogue" with Mr John Harvey, head of Morpeth Comprehensive School, Bethnal Green, East London, held in St Maryle-Bow church, London, yesterday.

Mr Harvey pointed out that every day there was some school somewhere that was breaking the law as laid down in the Education Act, 1944, which required religious instruction and a daily corporate act of worship in schools in England and Wales.

There have recently been suggestions that the law should be amended to reflect the change of values and beliefs in society in this country during the past 30 years.

Mrs Williams said, however, that there was no public support for dropping religious education. More than 70 per cent of parents wanted their children to have religious instruction and to be brought up in the tenets of their nominal faith, although most of those parents no longer went to church or had more than a kind of residual belief. Only 2 per cent of parents withdrew their children from religious education classes.

She agreed that society in Britain had changed greatly since the 1944 Act and now incorporated a wide range of beliefs, from Hindu, Muslim, Jewish, to the Catholic and Protestant. Religious education in schools had to reflect the fact that Britain was a much more "rainbow" country than it used to be, she said.

She therefore favoured a fairly liberal interpretation of the 1944 Act's requirement of "religious instruction" to include education about other religions as well as Christianity, as that was an essential part of promoting understanding in a pluralistic society.

"I am not particularly bothered if heads take into account that there may be more than one road to God," she said.

But many schools had gone beyond that, and were filling religious education periods with talks to stock markets and social issues as drugs and alcohol. Religious education should not turn simply into education about ethics.

All children should be taught to understand the force of religion in shaping people's behaviour, both in the past and today, in Northern Ireland, Lebanon, and the Middle East. To teach history, literature and even to some extent language without an understanding of the pervasiveness of religion was impossible, she said.

She agreed that it would be better if the Act required religious "education", rather than "instruction" which carried overtones of instruction in a particular faith.

Mrs Williams said she had been struck as she went around the country by the "extraordinary recrudescence" of basic fundamentalist churches, some based on oriental religions and some on "home-grown" ones.

The bookselling business 2: Exit 'general reader' in age of specialization
Hardback fiction is a flop, but nostalgia sells

By Ian Bradley

Perhaps the most significant trend in bookselling in recent years has been the change from general to specialist readers.

As Mr Fall, manager of Goulden and Curry's bookshop in Tunbridge Wells, put it: "The mythical general reader no longer exists. Twenty years ago people would come in and buy the latest Peter Fleming, the latest Frances Brett Young, a new biography, and a new travel book all in one purchase. Now they just cannot afford to buy so much. The specialized reader has become much more active. We sell books on people's interests."

The decline in general book buying has affected the sales of biography, travel and fiction. It has all but killed the sales of hardback fiction, which most booksellers say they stock only because they feel they should and not because they ever expect to sell it. The books that sell well now are on specialist subjects, like transport history, antiquities and ecology. Particularly popular are those with a "do-it-yourself" theme on gardening, cookery, and crafts.

As a result of that trend, a growing number of specialist bookshops are opening up, concentrating on one particular subject. Even general bookshops are increasingly limiting themselves to a number of specialist subject lines that they know they can sell.

The only general field that can still yield large sales is that of nostalgia. Books about life at the turn of the century are virtually guaranteed to sell well. W. H. Smith's best-seller this year has been the *Diary of an Edwardian Country Lady*.

The specialized market that is proving most successful is that of books for children, where sales have been increasing at an annual rate of 30 per cent for the past three years.

That may be partly because parents are prepared to spend more freely on their children than they would on themselves. It is also because British children's books are among the best in the world, and many children's bookshops have been doing very good export business recently.

The Children's Book Centre in Kensington, London, which claims to be the largest children's bookshop in the world, has a third of its sales overseas. In May it opened a branch in Paris and it has three vans going round Europe mounting sales exhibitions.

This summer it sold £6,000 of children's books in one day in a Geneva sports stadium. By the end of the year it will have sold more than 50 tons of books abroad.

The home market for children's books is also buoyant. Although spending cuts have reduced school library purchases many



Shoppers at the Children's Book Centre, Kensington, London, where sales are buoyant.

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schools have recently started collaborating with booksellers to set up sales points in classrooms staffed by teachers.

As in the adult market, hardback fiction has almost ceased to sell, but there is a boom in the sales of large, well illustrated books explaining how things work and on such subjects as natural history and transport.

The trend towards specialization has also affected the secondhand book business. The general books that sold well 10 years ago, novels, travel and history, are now difficult to shift from the shelves. There is little demand, for example, for the historical works of Arthur Bryant, G. M. Trevelyan or Churchill.

The great boom is in specialist books on science, natural history and topography, and in the field of Victorianiana. Miss Elizabeth Bateman, of Hall's

secondhand bookshop in Tunbridge Wells, says: "I could almost make a living now just selling things that 20 years ago I would have thrown away, like long runs of *Punch* and the *Illustrated London News*. Victorian books that we got for 7s 6d for are now in the catalogues at £20 to £50."

Miss Bateman predicts that ever increasing rents and rates will drive out secondhand booksellers from shops. Already many operate from home, sending out specialist lists and doing all their business by post. She fears that before long the general secondhand bookshop, where people can browse freely among the lives of lesser known Victorian worthies and fading volumes of the *Left Book Club*, may be a thing of the past.

Next: Academic books

Peace plan ends court ban on the Kielder dam

An injunction halting work on the £100m Kielder dam project in Northumberland was lifted by a judge at Leeds yesterday after five families who had objected to part of the scheme had accepted a peace formula. The Northumberland Water Authority is now free to begin work on the disputed section today.

The North Tyne was to have been diverted into a culvert on Monday as part of the latest stage of the Kielder project, which was begun in 1974. But the families protested that their homes were in danger of being flooded in exceptional circumstances after the diversion and obtained an injunction on Friday night to halt the work.

They said homes being built for them at Falsone near by were being delayed, and they were not satisfied about caravans provided in case their present homes were flooded after the diversion. The injunction was served on the water authority on Monday and the peace formula was finally accepted yesterday after discussions between the authority and legal representatives of the families.

The formula includes a promise that all the families' homes will be completed by November 29. Sturdier all-weather caravans will be supplied and in the event of a flood the families will stay in them for only two days. After that the water authority will pay for them to stay in hotels.

The authority will pay for any flood damage. At a county court hearing in Leeds yesterday Judge Blackett, Vice-Chancellor of the Northern Chancery Division, agreed to an order by consent in the action.

Mr Ronald Mitchell, for the water authority, had said that the risk of the houses flooding was small.

Mr Rees's denial on police pay reports

Mr Rees, the Home Secretary, yesterday denied reports that he pressed in Cabinet for a pay increase for the police of up to a quarter.

At a luncheon given by Westminster Chamber of Commerce, at which he was guest speaker, he was asked to reply to press reports that he alone in the Cabinet had argued in favour of a special case for the police to give them 25 per cent pay rises. He replied categorically: "It is not true."

He added that he was meeting the Police Federation on Thursday. Answering press reports that was not the best way to achieve what was wanted, he said: "I am aware of the importance of the police to society and the importance of the police service remaining healthy and strong."

Police union rebuffed: Mr Harry Purcell, chairman of the Police Council, yesterday criticized the Police Federation for withdrawing from the official negotiating machinery for the service (our Labour Staff writer).

His statement came the day after widespread reports that the Cabinet had decided not to make a special case of the police pay negotiations, which are to be resumed tomorrow.

Mr Purcell, leader of the council's official side and a Hereford-Worcester county councillor, rejected the contention by Mr James Jardine, chairman of the federation, that the Police Council was dead.

"I am not dead," he said. "The Police Council is alive and well, established by law. Is Mr Jardine suggesting that because he does not like it he can ignore it? Is he saying he is perfectly willing to enforce the law in respect of a other citizens but because it does not like this bit which applies to him he will ignore or pretend it does not exist?"

Mr Purcell recalled that recent meeting of the Police Council had dealt with senior officers' rent allowances and had awarded a big increase after negotiations.

How could that happen if the body was dead? he asked. He argued that ratepayers, who contribute about a third of the police wages, would insist on a say in police negotiation.

Mr Jardine had said that Government and the Home Secretary had not given the federation's 120,000 members fair deal, "and yet in the same breath he wants to eliminate local government from negotiations and to deal with the Home Secretary, the very man he says he has no faith in."

Mr Purcell said the press inquiry by Lord Edmund-Davies into police negotiating machinery would not report time to help this year's negotiations. "The only way to get money on the table is by meeting the official side of the Police Council forthwith and commencing negotiations."

Mr Purcell recalled that the Police Federation's last settlement (of between 20 and 30 per cent) had come as a result of a full inquiry initiated by the Police Council's official side. "We pressed the federation to settle before the Government introduced its policy and finally they agreed."

Mr Purcell said the Government introduced a rigid pay policy.

Strike over fleas: Eight hundred women stopped work at the J. & C. Craik factory at Brownhills, St. Albans, yesterday because they said it was infested with fleas. Pest control officers sprayed one area with insecticide.

Lower tax rate urged for those on small earnings

Tax rates of low-paid and average wage earners have tripled in the past 25 years while the tax rates of the higher paid remained unchanged, according to a paper published today by the Low Pay Unit.

The paper calls on the Chancellor to reintroduce a reduced rate of tax to redress the balance towards the low-paid. It says that in corporation tax the average wage earner paid a rate of only 10 per cent. The full standard rate was not paid until families earned twice the average wage.

Now tax is paid as soon as earnings exceed half the average, and the typical family starts paying tax at a rate of 34 per cent, as do people earning twice the average, it says.

Inflation had pulled increasing numbers of poor into the tax system, and governments had withdrawn the reduced rates of tax, thus contributing to a shift in the tax burden towards the lower-paid. The richest 10 per cent of families now pay a half of income tax revenue 10 years ago, but now contributed slightly more than a third. The difference had

come from those on below-average wages.

The unit urges the Government to reintroduce a reduced rate of tax at 20 per cent on the first £500 of taxable income. That would be of less immediate benefit to the low-paid than an equivalent increase in personal allowances, but as increases in personal allowances are eroded by inflation the value of a tax reduction would benefit the low-paid in the next year or two. An increase in personal allowances would shift the tax burden nearer the low-paid with children.

Reduced income tax would contribute to a more equitable distribution of the tax burden and would be a more effective way of encouraging wage earners to limit pay rises to 10 per cent.

"All parties agree that the current system of income tax is inefficient and inequitable, raising revenue from those who can least afford it. A thorough review of the tax system is necessary. The introduction of a reduced rate of tax should be the first step towards this goal."

A Jubilee Year for the Low Paid? (The Low Pay Unit Bulletin no 18; 50p).

How to give away a business

From Arthur Osman
Peterborough

An answer was suggested yesterday to the managing director of a Peterborough company with 11 employees who had offered a trust for the workers so that he could give away his business without paying tax.

Mr Michael Ward, Labour MP for Peterborough, said that after consulting the Treasury he had advised Mr John Wilhelmy, aged 51, of Span Shopfitters Company, to set up a trust for the workers so that they could own the business.

The company, which makes shopfitting equipment has a projected turnover this year of £200,000.

During the summer Mr Wilhelmy's appeal was answered by 300 which he reduced to a short list of three. Then the Inland Revenue Department told him he would be liable to gift tax if he handed over the business.

Mr Wilhelmy said yesterday that he was considering the suggestion. One of his employees said: "We have reservations at this stage. He is an honest man, fed up with legislation and working for the government for nothing. If there was any question of getting involved in more taxation or the swamp of legislation I for one would rather draw dole."

Mr Ward said that last year the Government exempted such trusts from gift and capital gains taxes. Mr Wilhelmy wanted to protect the livelihoods of a loyal, hard-working team.

Retired general fined
Ahmed Soliman, aged 61, a retired Egyptian army general, and his wife Elham, aged 53, were fined £100 each at Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court yesterday for stealing cosmetics and other items valued at £6.31 from Woolworth's store in Oxford Street, London.

Callaghan warning on fruitless mergers

From Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

The Prime Minister delivered a surprisingly stern warning on company mergers when he opened a new factory for Marconi Space and Defence Systems at Portsmouth yesterday. Many seemed little more than a game of corporate musical chairs, he said.

Mr Callaghan was careful to except the GEC/Marconi merger, which had produced a stronger company, more able to secure exports and better equipped to carry out research and provide secure employment, he said. Others had been less beneficial.

"We have had enough experience of them not to accept at face value the claims of the benefits they are supposed to bring without looking very hard at the facts," he said. "I was

recently shown the results of a study which showed that a high proportion, perhaps as much as half, of all company mergers bring no particular benefit either to the companies concerned or to the country."

On the hard evidence of profitability and productivity, mergers sometimes took place where the benefits had failed to outweigh the disadvantages.

"Obviously some mergers are good, and they should be supported. But let me no one believe that sheer increase in size for its own sake will necessarily bring better management, better industrial relations, increased productivity, higher efficiency and more profitability."

Mr Callaghan, who was accompanied by Mr Gilbert, Minister of State for Defence, opened a new firm extension of the Broad Oak Works where Marconi is to make radar guid-

ance systems for the successful British Skyflash air-to-air missile. The missile is being produced by the RAF for Phantom and Tornado aircraft. The United States is considering the missile for its Phantoms and a decision is expected by next March. Negotiations with Sweden are well advanced.

The Prime Minister, who toured the works, cited the Skyflash programme as an example of British industry's skill in producing guidance systems for modern weapons. British research and development was as advanced as anywhere else.

The Prime Minister said Britain spends a higher proportion of her defence budget on new equipment than any other Nato country does.

Although British forces are not as numerous as some others, he continued, Britain remains

the only European nation to commit strategic nuclear missiles, tactical nuclear missile and conventional forces to its alliance.

He praised the other world carried out at the Broad Oak site, including the Royal Navy Tigerfish heavyweight torpedo. But he referred to the long time it has taken Marconi to develop a high-speed torpedo which is expected to come on service on helicopters, Nimrod aircraft, and surface warships in the early 1980s.

He acknowledged that the modern torpedo is more like an underwater missile, which has to track down a moving target. So it was not surprising that there had been difficulties. He hoped that recent streamlining of the programme by GEC/Marconi would help to overcome difficulties that still lay ahead.

Green belts emphasized in £360m Lancashire plan

From Our Correspondent
Preston

A £360m plan to revitalize the old mill valleys of north-east Lancashire, with "green corridors" penetrating the hearts of the towns, was announced by Lancashire Development Committee yesterday.

Mr Jeffrey Rowbotham, planning officer, said the plan had chosen a compact town "theme" with built-up areas separated by green belts. "In this part of the country small valleys, many suffering from industrial dereliction, penetrate right into the centre of the towns, and they could be used to reinforce this theme."

The scheme envisages earmarking land on the edges of Blackburn, Accrington, Burnley, Nelson and Colne to attract large-scale new industrial

development to compensate for the decline of traditional industries.

The Government is to be asked to restore higher housing improvement grants, phased out in 1974, to prevent further deterioration of houses.

The scheme would take full advantage of the Government's 100 per cent reclamation grants and seek additional Government money to remove eyesores.

Strict controls on building, a positive policy for open land, and support for rural communities and small towns would be needed.

The plan envisages retaining many of the traditional stone terraces. "Many are well built and it keeps the kind of character of the area people are used to," Mr Rowbotham said.

World champion knew his stolen onions

From Our Correspondent
Walspool

George William Parkes, of Llanfyllin, Powys, stole nine onions from the garden of the world champion onion grower and exhibited them as his own. It was stated at Walspool Magistrates' Court yesterday. He was fined £25.

Mr Arthur Jones handed the magistrates a copy of the Guinness Book of Records, showing that he and his brother had grown the world's largest onion, weighing 13lb 15oz, and 23in in circumference.

He said that after the theft he had written to police officers in a local show where he found the onions among the prize-winners.

Mr Parkes, who denied the theft, told the court that he had grown the onions from seeds.

Maltese jailed for part in prostitution ring

Joseph Medina, aged 54, a native of Malta, was sentenced at the Central Criminal Court yesterday to 18 months' imprisonment for his involvement in organized prostitution in Soho and other parts of central London. He had been found guilty of plotting with Bernard Silver and others to live off the earnings of prostitutes.

Mr Silver, who is serving a long sentence, headed an enterprise known as "the syndicate", which organized prostitutes and ran "clip joints" in Soho. Rooms and flats were let out at huge rents to prostitutes and Mr Medina's job was to collect the rents, it was alleged.

Mr Kenneth Richardson, for the prosecution, said Medina was a minor in the operation. He should have stood trial with Mr Silver but failed to answer bail in 1974, and went to Malta but in June returned to his wife in Cardiff, where he gave himself up to the police.

Navy rating denies starting fire near explosives store

From Our Correspondent
Dunfermline

A fire was deliberately started in HMS Gurkha, a frigate, at Newport, Gwent, only a few feet away from where torpedoes, depth charges and shells were stored, a court martial at HMS Cockatrice, Rosyth, was told yesterday.

Assistant Commandant Anthony Towers, aged 18, of 11th West Yorkshire, denied starting the fire in a handling room of the frigate with the intention of endangering the lives of the ship's complement. He also denied starting a fire on the bridge of the Gurkha on the same night, intending to cause damage or being reckless as to whether damage was caused.

The fire in the handling room was discovered soon after midnight on April 2. Earlier there had been a cocktail reception.

The handling room contained small arms ammunition and pyrotechnics, adjoined the helicopter hangar and torpedo storage, where there were six depth charges and 11 torpedoes, and had direct access to a

magazine which held 400 4.5 inch shells.

"We later discovered some of the automatic sprinklers had not worked because a pin had been sheered in the mechanism," Lieutenant George Hesse, the ship's explosives officer, said. The fire was extinguished in 10 minutes.

Mr Towers was interviewed three times by Ministry of Defence detectives. On April 21, the prosecution alleged, he made a confession.

Lieutenant Commander Michael Ellis, the defending officer, said the confession was inadmissible because it had been made under "most oppressive conditions. Der Sergeant Michael Hammett denied in evidence that he had threatened Mr Towers with physical violence. The court martial continues today.

Polytechnic and college teachers in work-to-rule

Lecturers and teachers at Liverpool Polytechnic and the city's colleges of further education have started a work-to-rule in a dispute with the local authority over conditions of service. The dispute has been declared official by the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education.

Mr Sydney Jones, chairman of Liverpool Education Committee, said yesterday that further meetings are in progress between the authority and the association would be pointless.

Half of Scotland 'owned by 500 people'

From Ronald Fox
Edinburgh

Mr John McEwen, aged 90, lifetime Socialist and worker on the land, has produced his account of who owns Scotland. He was plainly no admirer of landlords or their achievements, and his book is sharply critical of the concentration of large parts of the country's 20 million acres in relatively few hands.

The book is claimed as the first land register for Scotland since the government survey of 1874, and Mr McEwen presents a narrow-based breakdown of who owns which estate. The project took six years to complete.

He points out that in seven eighths of Scotland people depend for their living on the use to which land is put. Up-to-date information on ownership is therefore of the utmost importance in the political and economic debates abounding in Scotland.

The study shows that 500 individuals own half of Scotland, and the top 100 land-owning families hold more than a quarter of the land. The top 25 on that particular list own more land than the state does.

Mr McEwen concludes his study by calling for complete land nationalization and for a

royal commission to inquire deeply into the "failure of private landlords in their so-called stewardship of land in Britain."

The book accuses private landlords of inadequate husbandry in agriculture, particularly in the 10 million acres of rough grazings; of poor performance by the private forestry sector compared with the achievements of the state; and of the degradation of millions of acres by "sadistic obsession with game."

Who Owns Scotland? (John McEwen, Edinburgh University Student Publications Board, £1.50).

Ban on Front 'threat to civil liberty'

Attempts to break up lawless National Front meetings were an objectionable threat to civil liberties, a Scottish protest said in Edinburgh last night.

Professor Neil McCormick, of the Department of Public Law at Edinburgh University, said in a lecture on "law and civil liberties" that "I condemn too roundly the tactics deliberately avowed by the Social Workers' Party, of forcing breaking up lawless meetings and processions."

"The use of mob rule as method directly and indirectly to prevent the expression of opinion which it is otherwise lawful to express is as much an objectionable a threat to civil liberty as is the abuse of public power."

"In its longer-run tendency it is highly dangerous to cause of rightful liberty, since if it really comes to mob rule there is no sure way of predicting which mob will win."

National Front leader, Mr Den Barker, QC, for the prosecution, said at Nottingham Cro Court yesterday.

Mrs Robinson, aged 23, from the house with a knife wound in her side, he added, and when the police arrived they found one man lying dead on his back "with appalling neck wounds" and the second man, also dead, propped against the wall.

Clifford Hill, aged 23, Moonmouth Street, Der pleaded not guilty to the murder of Graham Sharp, aged 25, and Guy Summerfield, aged 23, and denied attempt to murder Mr Robinson.

Mr Barker said that Mrs Robinson had previously lived with Mr Hill, but at the time of the killings she was living with Mr Sharp. Mr Hill's field was their lodger.

The hearing was adjourned until today.

Visitor stabbed two men to death, QC says

From Our Correspondent
Nottingham

FURTHER DETAILS

TODAY, COCA-COLA IS MOVING OUT OF MILTON KEYNES.

18 months ago, the new canning plant for Coca-Cola was merely a twinkle in someone's eye.

Yesterday it opened, in Milton Keynes.

And today, cans of Coke are on their way to destinations throughout Britain.

Why did The Coca-Cola Export Corporation choose Milton Keynes? Easy.

They wanted good communications. We're under 1 mile from the M1, midway between London and Birmingham.

They wanted space. We gave them 10 acres, on which they built a 96,000 sq.ft. plant.

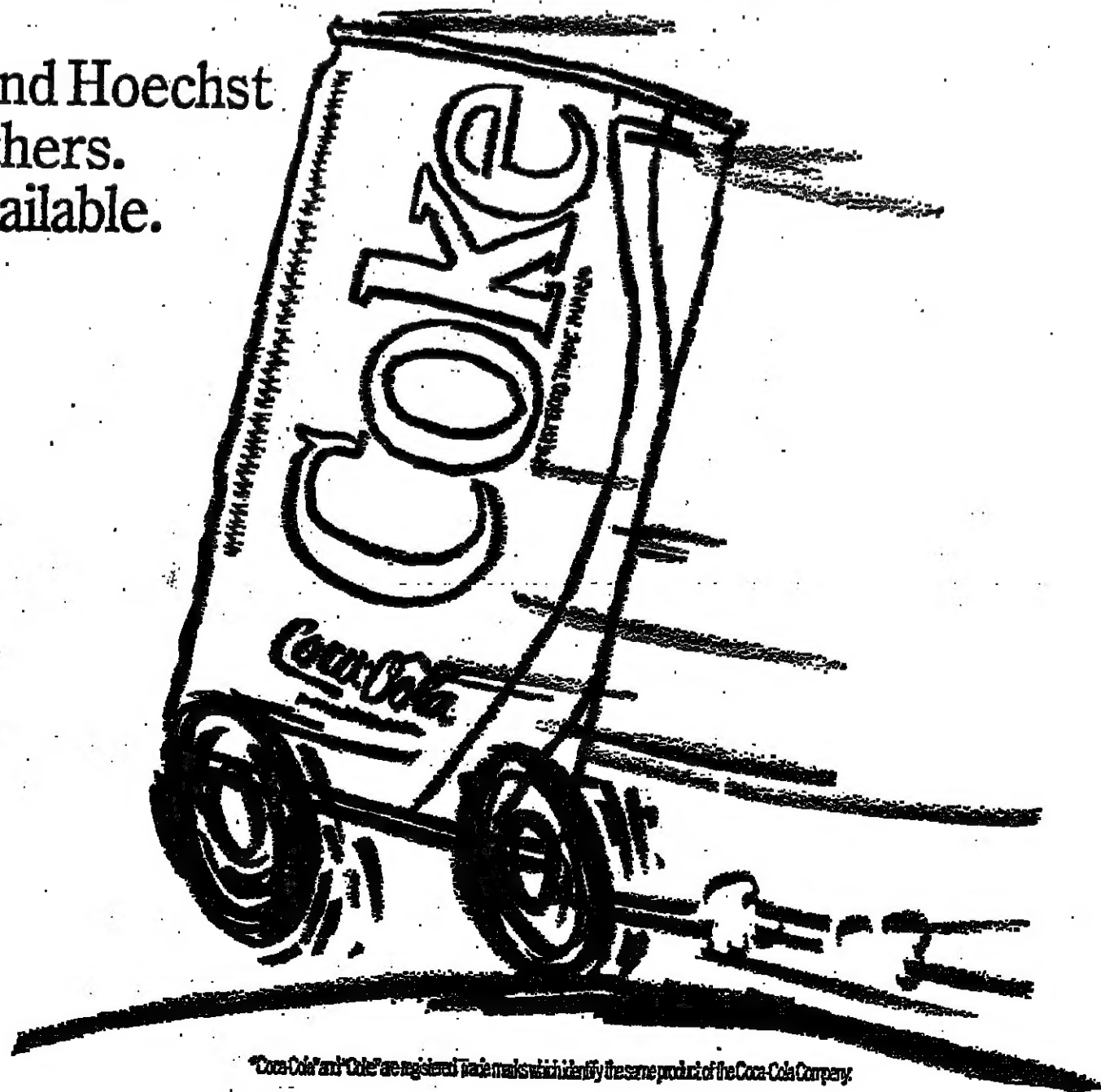
They wanted a happy, contented workforce. We had the workforce available, and Milton Keynes has no rival as far as housing and environment are concerned.

A spokesman for The Coca-Cola Export Corporation said: "The important factors were the fine road and rail connections, the ready availability of good housing and amenities in the town."

The Coca-Cola Company aren't the only people to see the benefits.

Rank Xerox, Volkswagen and Hoechst are here, too, along with many others.

However, space is still available.



*Coca-Cola and 'Coke' are registered trademarks which identify the same product of the Coca-Cola Company.

HOME NEWS

Mr Benn joins pit pay battle with plea to back productivity deal

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, made an unprecedented entry yesterday into the political minefield of pit industry pay negotiations with an eve-of-battle appeal to miners to vote for a productivity deal.

The minister, who avoided any commitment to productivity bargaining in the mines when he spoke to the annual conference of the miners' union in midsummer, came down firmly in favour of local incentives, which are being fiercely opposed by coalfield militants.

Mr Benn said the scheme should commend itself because "it was devised to avoid the evils of past piece-work schemes which set men against men and lowered safety standards. Secondly, it comes at a time when the long-term expansion of the coal industry has been agreed and when an integrated national energy policy is becoming a reality."

Thirdly, it offers the prospect of an increase in pay now for all mine workers, he said, and, believe that the miners will give the scheme a fair trial.

When a pit incentive scheme was last put to a ballot of the

men in the autumn of 1974 Mr Varley, then Secretary of State for Energy, made no such public plea for votes. That package was opposed by the National Union of Mineworkers' executive, and income policy was then at a less delicate stage.

Mr Benn's intervention in the argument over local incentives has divided the coalfields along moderate versus militant lines of leadership, emphasizing the Cabinet's anxiety over pit pay.

If the ballot, starting this morning and lasting 48 hours, does not produce a majority for the productivity deal the miners' union will have to pursue seriously a deferred basic rate claim for rises of up to 30 per cent.

The National Coal Board remains quietly confident that after two years of tight wage restraint the men will seize the opportunity to earn more money by raising output.

Under the scheme, coalface workers who perform in full an agreed weekly output target would get £23.50 a week more than their first pay week in November. Other workers would earn proportionately less the further from the face they work.

Industry to finance motor cycle training

By Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

Mr Rodgers, Secretary of State for Transport, yesterday announced the Government's backing for a new national training scheme designed to reduce what he called the appalling level of motor cycle casualties.

The scheme, foreshadowed in *The Times* on Monday, begins next April. It will be financed by the industry through a levy on each motor cycle and moped sold and will operate in conjunction with local authorities.

Mr Rodgers denounced a crash helmet and protective clothing and took his first brief ride on a motor cycle outside the Department of Transport in Westminster to launch the scheme. Afterwards he said that although motor cycles were increasingly popular, relatively cheap, and gave independence and pleasure to thousands of riders, they were dangerous.

The figures for casualties among motor cyclists, which included nearly a thousand killed and 19,000 seriously injured, were a fifth above those of 1975. "The risk of death or serious injury from a motor cycle, for each mile travelled, is some twenty times as great as for a car driver," he said.

One of the best ways of reducing casualties was to extend training facilities and use them for more. "We estimate that over 90 per cent of all new riders take no training at all. And if they suddenly demanded to be allowed to do so, existing facilities could not cater for them."

One possible way of inducing more riders to be trained was some form of restriction on the use of provisional licences.

The national training scheme, to be known as *Safe Rider*, will be organized by the Traffic Education Programme, which runs courses in nearly a thousand schools. The levy, of £3 on motor cycles and £2 on mopeds, will produce an income of about £650,000 a year.

WEST EUROPE



President Schell, right, and Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, with Frau Waltrude Schleyer, the murdered man's widow, yesterday.

Baader gang survivor denies jail suicide plot

Darmstadt, Oct. 25.—The surviving member of the jailed Baader-Meinhof gang, Ingrid Möller, has denied trying to commit suicide at the top security Stammheim jail in Stuttgart, her lawyer said today.

Frau Jutta Bahr-Jendges said in a statement that her client also denied there was any suicide pact between the three terrorists found dead in the same prison last week.

Frau Möller, who is 30, told her lawyer she did not inflict the stab wounds on herself which led to her being taken to hospital on October 17. They were reported to have been caused by a bread knife.

West German authorities say her three colleagues, who were found dead on the same day, had killed themselves—Andreas Baader and Jan-Carl Raspe by shooting, and Gudrun Ensslin by hanging herself with an electric cable.

The lawyer said she visited Frau Möller in a clinic in Tuebingen, where she had an operation last Saturday, and saw her again yesterday in the prison hospital near Stuttgart.

Frau Möller told her lawyer that she had been reading until about 3 am on October 17 when she heard banging noises and a screaming sound. The next thing she knew she was being taken to a stretcher covered with blood in the prison corridor.

Frau Bahr-Jendges said her client was unaware then of how her colleagues had died or of the freeing a few hours earlier of 56 hostages from the hijacked Lufthansa jetliner in Somalia.

She said that Frau Möller, who was still without access to radio or newspapers, only found out about the Stammheim deaths and the Mogadishu air-port rescue in talks with lawyers.

Prison officials at Stammheim said the three dead terrorists, who were in solitary confinement, conversed through a communications system hidden behind the walls.—Reuter and AP.

Bonn President appeals to world leaders to fight terrorism

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Oct. 25

President Walter Schell appealed to all politicians of the world to consider worldwide conventions to fight terrorism. His appeal came as West Germany denounced Dr Hans-Martin Schleyer, the latest victim of terrorism, with a state funeral.

If the flame of terrorism is not extinguished quickly, Herr Schell said, "it will spread like a conflagration over the whole world."

The President spoke from the balcony of St. Elizabeth's church in Stuttgart. Dr Schleyer's home town, towards the end of the ceremony, he reserved a former president and prime minister. Military honours were excluded at the family's request.

The dignity of the Pontifical Mass, the moving strains of Mozart's *Requiem*, the masses of white and yellow chrysanthemums and the assembly of political, economic, religious and trade union leaders was in striking contrast to the humble, almost unassuming, man who was being honoured.

Dr Schleyer, who was simultaneously president of the West German Industries' Federation and the employers' association, had been quite happy to have his family for forgiveness. He said the terrorists were enemies of every civilization and order, and the countries of the world were beginning to realize it.

"I appeal to responsible politicians of the world to conclude worldwide conventions against terrorism," he said, "and to take no discrimination against any life and 'bus'."

People in many countries who attacked West German property or painted slogans on the walls after the suicides in prison of three Baader-Meinhof terrorists were "helping to prepare the ground on which the evil seed can germinate." They took a share in the responsibility for terrorism.

Meanwhile, the mystery as to the identity of the four people, two men and two women, who hijacked the airliner continues. Government officials said it was not known here who they were and in any case, any identification would be announced by the Somali Government since three of them died and a fourth was seriously wounded on Somali territory.

Reports during the course of the hijacking had it that two were West German but all looked decidedly foreign. The impression here is that they were Arabs, probably Palestinians.

A public opinion poll conducted by the Wickers Institute showed today that 70 per cent of 10 West Germans approve of the Government's stand during the hijacking.

Britain expected to impose fishing ban

From Michael Hearnby
Luxembourg, Oct. 25

Britain is considering the imposition of a unilateral ban on the fishing of Norway-pout in an area off north-east Scotland in view of the refusal of EEC fisheries ministers her today to approve the extension of the Community ban beyond the end of this month.

Speaking to journalists after the meeting, Mr Bruce Millan, Secretary of State for Scotland, left little doubt that the Government would impose such a ban, which is designed to prevent "by-catches" of immature haddock and whiting unavoidably caught in the course of fishing for pout for fish meal production.

The European Commission had proposed extending the pout ban until the end of the year, but only if Britain was prepared to back Britain in support of this proposal.

Mr Millan said that a unilateral ban would be justified under last year's aid agreement permitting national governments to take non-discriminatory conservation measures in the absence of comparable Community action.

In a separate move, Britain won the support of most other member states in favour of extending a ban on herring fishing in the North Sea until the end of the year. However, ministers will meet again in two weeks' time to see whether after study of the wharves situation it is possible to permit limited exceptions to the ban.

During today's discussions the French, who were eventually outvoted, four to three, to extend a ban on herring fishing in the eastern end of the English Channel. The French and the Danes are also interested in winning extensions.

The European Commission maintains that herring fishing ought to be totally banned until the end of 1978 so as to allow the reconstruction of rapidly dwindling stocks.

According to reliable scientific evidence, herring stocks in the North Sea have fallen over 10 years from 1,700,000 tons to no more than 300,000 tons. Of this, the spawning stock is only 150,000 tons.

Fuel tankers explode after crash

The police were searching last night for the driver of a blue tipper lorry after two oil tankers and a van had collided and exploded in flames near a small Oxfordshire village early yesterday morning.

The drivers of the tankers narrowly escaped death when their lorries, carrying a total of 1,500 gallons of fuel, exploded. One was badly burnt and was taken to Stoke Mandeville Hospital. The other jumped off safety as flames burst 50 feet into the air. The van driver escaped through the back doors as burning petrol engulfed his vehicle.

Firemen pumped thousands of gallons of foam on to the blaze, and the A418 road between Thame and Oxford was blocked all day. Thick black smoke could be seen from Oxford, 10 miles away.

The tipper lorry overtook another lorry as it approached the convoy of tankers making its way from the BP oil depot at Thame.

Benefactor to pay boy's fees

A boy, aged 13, whose parents refused to send him to a comprehensive school for two years started at Gresham's School, Holt, Norfolk, yesterday.

The £475-term fees are being paid by an anonymous benefactor who read about the parents' fight in the magazine of the National Association for Freedom.

A solicitor for the family, of Linton, said it would take two weeks to complete arrangements, then they would apply to magistrates to release the boy from the care of Bedfordshire County Council.

The parents contested the care order before the county council won a decision on appeal. They were refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

Five years ago the boy's father was jailed for refusing to send his two daughters to a comprehensive school. He was released when a wealthy businessman offered to pay for private schooling.

Priest suspended for IRA remark gets new parish

A Roman Catholic priest suspended from parish duties in June, 1974, by the Archbishop of Birmingham, Dr Dwyer, for making an IRA hunger strike who died in prison has been reinstated. It was learnt yesterday.

Father Michael Connolly, aged 46, formerly at St Joseph's, Wolverhampton, has been parish priest at St Mary's, Leek, Staffordshire, since April. It is understood that Dr Dwyer,

who was not available for comment last night, thought that enough time had elapsed to enable him to make the appointment.

He attended the funeral in London of Michael Gaughan, his cousin, who had died in Parkhurst prison, and described him as "a great man who has died for his conscience", and for his conviction that Irish people alone should decide the future of Ireland.



Milan newspaper editor quits after five years

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome, Oct. 25

Signor Pier Ottone is leaving after five years as editor of the Milan *Corriere della Sera*. He says he is in need of a change.

There has been speculation that a shortage of money at the *Corriere* forced on the owners, the Rizzoli family, the decision to replace a notably open-minded editor by one regarded as far more conformist and conservative.

Signor Ottone makes no comment on his successor, Signor Franco di Bella, who seems most of his career with the *Corriere* before being made deputy editor, Signor Michele Tito, however, has resigned in protest and it is rumoured that other resignations will come.

Signor Ottone now moves to Mondadori publishing house where he will be in charge of development and at the same time will be managing director of the Rome newspaper *La Repubblica* in which Mondadori have a half ownership.

He says he is happy with his new job. Had he been offered five years ago he would have chosen the *Corriere*, but now he feels he should move.

He says: "The reason why I am going has nothing to do with the financial problems. I have been quite happy all these years with Rizzoli. They have not made themselves disagreeable at any time. I had no reason to expect difficulties in the future or that my liberty as editor would be impaired."

His gentlemanly departure surprises no one. He has been a skilful and resourceful editor, but his open-mindedness can scarcely have endeared him to many sections of political opinion in the country.

West German questioned by Special Branch

By Stewart Tisdall

A West German, suspected of connections with the Baader-Meinhof gang, left Britain for home yesterday after being held and questioned by Special Branch officers in London.

Scotland Yard confirmed last night that the man had been held overnight on Monday and flew back to West Germany of his own volition.

The man is not one of the 16 alleged members of the gang being sought across Europe in connection with the murder of Dr Schleyer, but is suspected of a minor role in the gang's activities.

The arrest indicates the thoroughness of the search now being carried out in Europe. It also demonstrates that police forces have put into effect an agreement by EEC home affairs ministers last summer for greater exchange of information to fight terrorism.

Attacks by French right

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Oct. 25

Right-wing extremists have begun to organize counterattacks against the left-wing Baader-Meinhof sympathizers who in the past week have been responsible for a series of attacks on property with West German connections in France.

Their most serious attack to date has been the bombing of the offices of the leftist legal organization, the *Syndicat de la Magistrature*, which caused serious damage.

The police have banned a left-wing demonstration

Stirling University back on target

From Ronald Faux
Stirling

Stirling University, the professor said, was back on course and growing healthily.

The modern campus, woven in to an attractive setting of ancient and modern buildings, had begun to celebrate the tenth anniversary of its royal charter and yesterday the staff invited journalists to see what had been accomplished.

Stirling was, of course, the university that became notorious five years ago for a momentary lapse of decorum during a visit by the Queen. Overnight the campus became the subject of headlines around the world because of the rudeness of a few students. One was photographed saving a wine bottle at the Queen, and the repercussions were "astounding."

A second appeal, about to be launched, was aimed at the university's fortitude, probably £15m. Relationships with the local community were badly damaged, and the number of students applying for Stirling fell sharply.

"That one incident set us back two years, and in fact our students' interest tended to the same level only last year," a member of the staff said.

Yesterday, as guests munched their way through a gourmet buffet, the university announced that student numbers were back on target at 2,500 undergraduates, a thousand more than in one year after the early 1970s.

The number of students applying to Stirling had grown by a fifth in the past year, and the university accepted more than a thousand new students in one year for the first time.

"We look back on the royal episode with grief. The university did not deserve what happened when the story was blown up," a postgraduate said.

A lecturer wondered whether the new intake of students were less militant, more conventional. Sociology, often associated with militancy, had remained static, while courses in management, science, and accountancy and business studies were all increasing. Could it be that the students were becoming short-haired, job-conscious?

Certainly a large notice drawing attention to the council of the Students' Association elections read: "I.S. and the broad left may not have their own way... If you are discontented, support a militant, moderate amendment."

How times change; little wonder that Bridge of Allan, the university's quiet, conservative neighbour, has begun to talk to the students again. "There was a long silence after the Queen incident," a student recalled.

Stirling looks forward confidently to the next ten years. It was the first university to be built from scratch in Scotland for 300 years, and the University Grants Commission made clear that it would become a focal point for growth.

Academically, the university has earned a good reputation in such practical areas of research as fish-farming, atomic physics, diving and education.

Mr Rodgers: "Motor cycles are dangerous."

Turin councillor shot in legs

Turin, Oct. 25.—Signor Antonio Cocozzello, a Christian Democratic City councillor, was shot four times in the legs today by unidentified attackers. The extreme leftist Brigades claimed responsibility soon afterwards.

Minister has high hopes for budget talks with MPs

European Parliament
Luxembourg

The debate was resumed on the European Community budget for 1978. The Council of Ministers has said it wants to commit 11,422m ECU, respectively less than the Commission proposed that 4.7 per cent of the budget should be devoted to social policy, but the council had reduced this figure to 3.66 per cent.

It was in the social sector where the money spent could have a tremendous impact. If they were able to spend much more, the sort of sum the socialists would like, many of the other sectors could be reduced and people would be more persuaded about the efficacy of the Community.

She wanted the proposed cuts restored so that more money was available for such things as help for the handicapped and housing for the unemployed.

More should be done to ease the problem of youth unemployment. Unless something was done there would be social problems developing in the future. The social fund could be a practical basis for a European political system.

Mrs Elaine Keller-Sawman (Lancaster, C) said some sectors were in more desperate straits than others and no one could be in any doubt about the problems facing the textile industry.

He seen to be actively involved in solving the problems.

Signor Ferruccio Pisani (Italy, U), speaking for the more people in the Community, more marginal areas and growing unemployment. Unemployment among those under the age of 25 was now two million—three times the number in 1974.

Western society had got into its economic problems because of the imbalance in the distribution of wealth. The programmes to rectify the situation fell far short of what was needed and the hitherto optimistic forecasts about development of the Community were now seen to be wrong.

Even as economies were expanded to unemployment, the rate continued to grow and it was a myth to suggest that the problems could be solved overnight.

Given these factors the sum proposed by the council for the social fund was totally inadequate. Mr John Evans (Newtown, Lab) said that the regional fund was at the heart of the budget. The 5.06 per cent of the budget he devoted to the regional fund. The council had proposed cutting this to 3.45 per cent.

He suggested that having cut the sum, the council might yield to the righteous indignation of the Commission and Parliament and say that the regional fund had been increased, nothing else could be.

The regional fund had been one of the major issues when Britain had joined the Community. During the campaign prior to the referendum opponents, like him, of membership, had found it difficult to counter the argument made out for membership based on the value of the fund.

breaking to have to tell community and civic leaders in the regions that there was no money available for the regional fund.

Mr Russell Johnston (Newtown, Lab) said that the regional committee of the parliament was not making enough demands for money. The Council was showing not only contempt for the people of the regions but contempt for the ideals, objectives and hopes generated at the time the fund was established.

He did not know which country in the Council was responsible for the cuts, but if it was the British Government it was illogical for them to complain about the amount spent on agriculture and then cut the regional fund which, if unused, would have put the budget into better balance.

Until there was an effective regional fund there could be no positive advance to economic and monetary union.

Herr Hans-Jürgen Klinker (West Germany, C-D), speaking for the agriculture committee of the Parliament, said that the degree of attention devoted to agriculture in the Budget gave rise to serious and often fierce criticism—more often than not superficial and superficial criticism.

Agriculture was the only sector in the Community where national resources had been pooled. Part of the money spent on agriculture went on supporting the African, Pacific and Caribbean countries, money which would not necessarily be charged exclusively to the G.A.P. Bearing in mind income as well as the amount spent on the CAP, the amount spent on only 45 per cent of

desirable such as the climatic conditions and bearing in mind that the Commission intended shortly to put forward a series of proposals on the CAP.

These should be much more parliamentary control over the agricultural expenditure. The need to limit agricultural expenditure or at least bring it under the control of the Parliament had been highlighted by the announcement that taxpayers' money was to be spent this week destroying cauliflower.

It was difficult to persuade the taxpayer that his money was being well spent on destroying good food. It was not a question of the sum involved being a small percentage of the common agricultural fund. Even if it were a minute amount, it became politically difficult for a series of attacks on property with West German connections in France.

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OVERSEAS

Concorde stays within noise limits during all its New York tests

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Oct 25

To the irritation of local residents in New York, Concorde has passed its first take-off and landing tests at Kennedy airport with flying colours. The general feeling is that even the port authority, which fought hard to keep the supersonic airliner away from the city, will do nothing further to prevent regular passenger services to and from London and Paris.

After its highly publicized arrival in New York on Wednesday, two days after a Supreme Court ruling allowing Concorde to use Kennedy temporarily, the aircraft made two further test landings and three take-offs during the latter half of the week.

None of these manoeuvres came even close to infringing the airport's present noise limits. Indeed, the final trial departure, with a full payload of 172 tons (equivalent to 100 passengers and their baggage) on Saturday for a Concorde on its way to Toulouse, was the quietest of the three take-offs.

It registered some 104 decibels, compared with 107.5 earlier in the week. The noise limit for all aircraft leaving Kennedy airport is 112 decibels.

Last week's trials also provided local ground staff with an opportunity to familiarize themselves with Concorde in preparation for regular passenger services, which are due to begin on November 22.

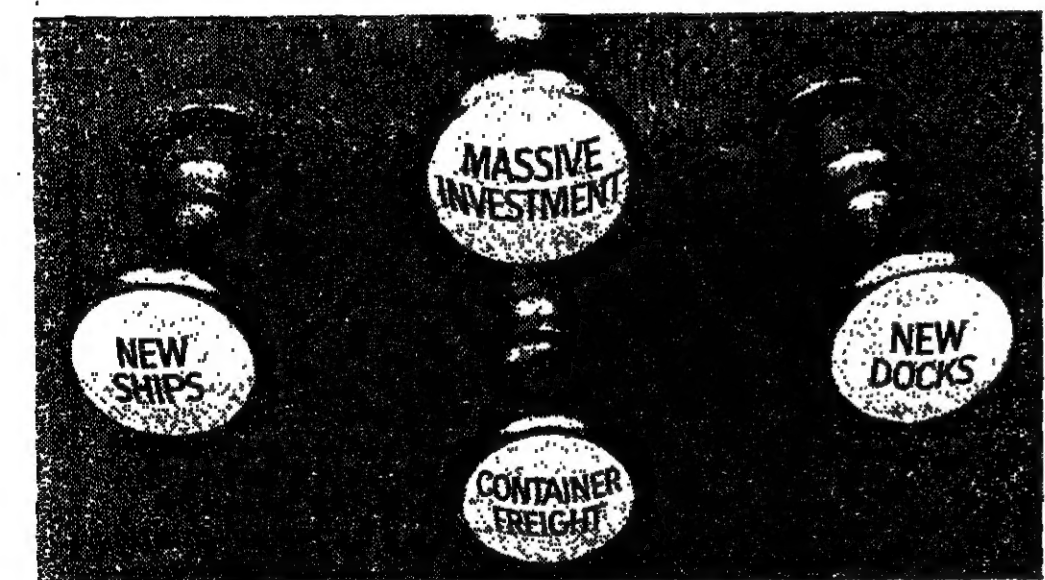
Air France is expected to schedule a daily flight to and from Paris, British Airways will initially provide two services a week, to and from London, rising to four a week after a fortnight or so.

Bing Crosby maintains his privacy after death

Redwood City, California, Oct 25—Bing Crosby, who guarded his privacy in life, has apparently managed to maintain his privacy after death.

He established a "living trust" four months before his death to handle the bulk of his estate, so avoiding the publicity of normal probate proceedings.

The living trust arrangements in essence a private will was disclosed yesterday when a will covering the rest of his estate was lodged for



WHY SOUTH AFRICA IS PULLING OUT ALL THE STOPS FOR HER MOST IMPORTANT TRADING PARTNER.

Britain is still South Africa's most important market for her exports. British imports range from vital foodstuffs to essential raw materials.

And South Africa herself imports more than £1000m of British goods every year. (Britain in fact enjoys a healthy visible and invisible trade surplus with South Africa, helping redress her overall trade deficit.)

This traffic is vital to the economy of both countries, and is one of the chief reasons why South Africa has just completed a massive investment in the most modern containerisation facilities in the world. This new service has meant new ships, new docks, new port handling plant, new trucks, new rolling stock. Comparable investment has been made by Britain with new ships and containerisation facilities at Southampton.

Containerisation means faster freight handling, goods arriving in better condition, and less risk of pilferage. But if the economic savings of containerisation are to be enjoyed to the full those boxes have got to be full both ways.

We are here, at South Africa House, to give importers from South Africa, and potential investors in South Africa's ebullient economy, all the help we can.

We have always been a giant in the field of raw materials. This natural endowment is today linked with an industrial technology, and manufacturing resources which match any of the developed countries of Western Europe.

Capital investment in South Africa can be very rewarding as the expanding investments by many prominent world business leaders have proved.

Importers from South Africa know that delivery dates will be met, quality control will be stringent, and prices keen.

For more information, please contact:

The Minister (Commercial),
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South Africa House, Trafalgar Square,
London WC2N 5DP. Tel 01-930 4488.

Royal yacht heads for one of Britain's few remaining crown colonies

Virgin Islands decked out to greet the Queen

From Michael Leapman
Road Town, Oct 25

The Queen visits the British Virgin Islands tomorrow for the second time in 11 years. If this seems an excessive favour to bestow on a community of hardly more than 10,000 people, there are at least two good reasons for it.

To begin with, the Virgin Islands form one of Britain's dwindling collection of remaining crown colonies. Secondly, they are an exceptionally merry place to be.

Road Town, the capital, is on the biggest island, Tortola, and has prettied itself up for the occasion. Dozens of bright new Union Jacks are flying along the route of the Queen's drive and plastic bunting has been strung across the main square. Hand-painted banners bearing loyal messages decorate the route.

Everyone has pitched in to lend a hand. A minister in the executive council, the colony's most august body, was helping unroll the bunting yesterday and prisoners from the jail have been cleaning up the streets. The finishing touches are being put to a new public

lavatory which will be ready just in time.

The squat, wooden-shuttered shops along the route are being given a last-minute blue or green coating so that, in the clammy heat, the faint smell of paint hangs over the town.

Road Town is a curious blending of small shops and bars, with modern air-conditioned banks, evidence of the colony's role as a tax haven.

The royal visit is a big event for the island, rivalled as a talking point only by a recent trial for murder, only the third in the past 10 years. Visiting reporters, mentally buffeted by the rigours of Caribbean air travel, are welcomed like heroes at Road Town airport, where they are piled with rum and coconut water, until the arrival of transport, which is cunningly timed not to turn up until the end of the second drink.

The island's own airline, flies well-maintained Dakotas from San Juan, the Puerto Rican capital, with an informality which is typified by their flight boarding announcements in the departure lounge: "Okay, let's go."

The route from Road Town to Tortola, across the Queen Elizabeth bridge, which the Queen opened the last time she was here. The islanders are greatly proud of it, although it has only one lane. In Tortola, each reporter is housed in a two-storey villa in a luxurious resort complex, almost entirely empty of tourists.

Many of the visitors who come here are American yachtsmen who live on their own boats, finding it cheaper to berth here than in the American Virgin Islands. A boat moored outside my villa is skippered by a far American with a white Hemingway style beard, acting out his nautical fantasies in a T-shirt which commemorates the royal visit.

Odd characters show up in places like this. A few are the remnants of the once large band of ex-patriates that moved from India to Jamaica to Kenya to Malaysia and have now flocked up here because there are precious few places left.

They are not fond of intruders. There is a faint air of distrust about the place which affects even visitors. At

breakfast, a man who works for a type company explained to me his plan for solving the world's energy crisis by increasing the production of sugar on islands like this to make alcohol, which could be used as fuel.

It would be a shame so to waste the local rum, a smooth concoction made at a one-man distillery on the other side of the island.

The Queen arrives tomorrow on board the royal yacht Britannia and will read the Speech from the Throne at the Legislative Assembly before visiting a hospital.

In the afternoon she will go to Virgin Gorda which, according to the official tourist brochure, looks from the air like a recumbent woman.

The only misfortune so far is an outbreak of polio on one of the remoter islands of the group. The chief medical officer here has advised the Queen's doctors to boost her vaccination.

She leaves the Virgin Islands tomorrow night for Anguilla. Then she will go to Barbados where she will catch a Concorde home.

Florida boy sentenced to electric chair

Sebring, Florida, Oct 25.—A 16-year-old boy was sentenced today in the electric chair to die, one of the youngest persons in Florida ever to be sentenced to death.

Frank Ross was found guilty last February of killing to death Mrs Helen Dixon, a 64-year-old widow, in her home and robbing her of \$6 (£3.50) and a jewelry box on November 15, 1976.

The sentencing of the youth, who will be 17 on November 30, had been delayed by Judge Clifton Kelly until today. Under Florida law, a death penalty case is automatically appealed against and reviewed by the state Supreme Court.

James Wells, aged 17, was also charged with the murder of Mrs Dixon.

On August 12, Judge Kelly found Wells guilty and sentenced him to life imprisonment for his part in the murder-robbery.

Ross's mother sat quietly in the courtroom as the sentence was pronounced. "What had to be done," she said outside the courtroom.—UPI and AP.

New offer by Nato on troop cuts likely

From David Cross
Washington, Oct 25

The United States and its Nato allies are making headway on a new offer to bring the long stalemate over negotiations for troop reductions in central Europe.

According to well-informed sources here, the Nato deliberations, principally involving Soviet Union and London, focus on amendments to an offer in December, 1975, which the Russians have criticised but never formally rejected.

This involved a United States withdrawal of some 1,000 tactical nuclear weapons, 90 aircraft and missiles and 29,000 troops in return for one or two Soviet tank armies consisting of some 1,700 tanks and nearly 70,000 troops from East Germany.

The allies are now reported to be willing to allow the Russians to withdraw roughly the same number of troops and tanks but some of them from less strategic areas like Poland and Czechoslovakia. This, the alliance argues, should make the 1975 offer more palatable to the Warsaw Pact countries.

According to The New York Times, the alliance would also agree informally not to deploy the controversial neutron bomb in central Europe if the Soviet Union shows signs of some willingness to compromise. Full-scale development of the neutron device, which kills by radiation rather than by concussion, is awaiting a final go-ahead by the alliance.

The talks in Vienna on mutual reduction of forces have been deadlocked for several years because of the Soviet Union's unwillingness to accept larger cuts than the alliance.

Nato maintains that the final outcome of any cuts should result in an equal number of Eastern and Western troops.

Mr Paul Warnke, Director of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and the chief American negotiator, said at the outset he was optimistic about the chances of getting a treaty.—UPI.

Brussels, Oct 25.—A Nato spokesman today denied a report in The New York Times that the United States, West Germany and Britain had agreed on a new proposal to reduce the Soviet Union arms reduction in central Europe.—AP.

Sakharov flat in Moscow is ransacked

Moscow, Oct 25.—Dr Andrei Sakharov, the dissident leader and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize said today that his Moscow flat was ransacked yesterday by a friend, who he believed was an undercover search by the authorities.

Dr Sakharov told Western journalists by telephone that the two-roomed suburban flat was found "with the lock forced and in complete disorder" by a friend, who is temporarily living there, on returning from work.

Dr Sakharov, who earlier this month appealed to the European Security Conference at Belgrade, to take a firm stand on human rights, lives with his mother-in-law in a tower flat near the city centre.

Dr Sakharov said yesterday's raiders had "turned over every drawer and cupboard and thrown everything on to the floor". The lining of clothes had been ripped and cases had been torn open "as if they were looking for something".

"Nothing was missing, so it cannot have been thieves. I can only regard it as an underhanded search by the authorities." He did not plan to call in the police because he felt it would serve no purpose.

Dr Sakharov, once one of the Soviet Union's leading nuclear scientists, said he and his wife Yelena, who is being treated in an Italian hospital for an eye disease, believed her son Alexei, aged 20, was coming under official pressure.

Alexei, who is in the final year of a five-year course at a Moscow teachers' training institute, had been given a bad report for his military training course and was under threat of expulsion, Dr Sakharov said.—Reuters.

Third World report

India trains its 'barefoot doctors'

From Richard Wigg
Delhi, Oct 25

For the past month, 15,000 Indians of whom had at most six years' schooling, have been taking elementary classes in topics vital to the development of a poor country: basic hygiene, nutrition, first aid and maternal and child welfare.

They are training to be "people's health protectors" under a scheme launched by Mr Raj Narain, the Minister of Health. It is India's equivalent of China's barefoot doctors' scheme and will cost £2m a year. Next year the cost will rise to £5m.

The trainees get 200 rupees (about £13) a month during the three-month training period. When this is completed, they will receive 50 rupees a month, plus the same amount for medicines. When the first supply of these has been used, their own villages are expected to replace them from their funds.

If one of the trainees drops out of the scheme his village will have to defray the expense, said the Government.

About 60 per cent of India's 620 million people live in rural areas. Until now, one full-time health worker attached to primary health centres was supposed to look after an average 10,000 people. In practice, it was not possible to cover more than a fraction of them.

Next June Mr Narain will review the first months of the health protectors' work and examine any inadequacies and mistakes.

The man responsible for getting the scheme going is Mr C. R. Krishnamurthi, the 40-year-old joint secretary for rural health in the Delhi ministry, who emphasized that the project had to be fully or nearly community oriented to medical education in India.

The glamour of working in a modern, big city hospital had to be changed and resources shifted to preventive medicine, he said. If it achieved basic health among the masses—the real goal of the health protectors scheme—it would be a sound investment.

India has more than 100 medical colleges and each one is being urged to "adopt" three primary health centres. The aim is that faculty staff will switch the emphasis of their teaching from surgery to preventive medicine.

To help the scheme, about 300 mobile clinics will come from Britain in the next few months, Mr Krishnamurthi told me.

An illustrated manual, prepared with Unicef help, from which the health protectors are being taught, includes *ayurvedic* and other traditional medicines in which the Indian people have confidence. It is estimated that there are 400,000 fully or nearly trained practitioners of these techniques in the country, principally in rural areas.

Mr Narain has insisted frequently on building on these indigenous herb-based medicines, which are far cheaper than Western-style pharmaceuticals.

Victoria power workers decide to end strike

From Our Correspondent
Melbourne, Oct 25

A 10-week strike by power workers in Victoria, which threatened to cause dislocations throughout the country, ended today when maintenance workers voted by about 2,000 to 40 to return to work.

The men carried a shop stewards' recommendation to end their strike to allow an arbitration commission inquiry into their pay claims to start immediately. The decision came after a two-hour meeting on the Oval at Yallourn in the centre of the Latrobe valley.

In the arbitration commission Melbourne today Mr N. J. Mansini, the commissioner, began a work-value assessment on the workers' claim for a SA40 (£25.56) a week rise.

After the meeting cars drove through the streets of Yallourn with banners today. The chairman of the State Electricity Commission, said that power rationing could be lifted by Thursday.

World bridge final likely to be all-American

Manila, Oct 25.—The first all-American final at the world bridge championship looked likely today after the eighth round matches.

Swedish hopes of taking the title back to Europe faded as they were defeated 17-3 by the defending champions America 1. America 2, lying second to the champions before the round, extended its lead over third-placed Sweden with a 13-7 victory over Taiwan.

Australia scored its third successive victory by beating Argentina 16-4. The win is likely to put the South Americans out of contention.—Reuters.

Bride shot

Beletweye, Somalia, Oct 25.—An 18-year-old bride was shot in the head at her wedding by a group of enthusiastic well-wishers who fired into the air.

ENTERTAINMENTS

When telephoning use prefix 01 and outside London Metropolitan Area.

OPERA AND BALLET

COLISEUM, Credit cards 01-240 0228.
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Tonight 8.30. The Tale of the Two Cities. Tomorrow 7.30. The Tale of the Two Cities.
CITY OF DUBLIN, 01-240 0228.
THE ROYAL BALLET
Tonight 8.30. The Tale of the Two Cities. Tomorrow 7.30. The Tale of the Two Cities.

THEATRES

LYRIC THEATRE, 01-497 366.
COLIN CLARK, 01-497 366.
NATIONAL THEATRE, 01-240 0228.
THE ROYAL BALLET
Tonight 8.30. The Tale of the Two Cities. Tomorrow 7.30. The Tale of the Two Cities.

CONCERTS

FREE FOLK.—Los Angeles from Argentina are one of the most popular folk groups in the world. They will be performing at the Royal Festival Hall, London, on Friday, October 27, at 8.00 p.m. Tickets are free, but a donation of £1.00 is suggested.

THEATRES

ADRIAN THEATRE, 01-856 7611.
"THE MUSICAL MUSICAL"
Tonight 8.30. The Tale of the Two Cities. Tomorrow 7.30. The Tale of the Two Cities.

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THE ARTS

Baker/Previn
Festival Hall

Joan Chissell

Since Dame Janet Baker's recital on Monday with André Previn at the Festival Hall, it was appropriate that there should be a salute to the "city more beautiful than any other".

It came in three previously unperformed settings by Michael Head of poems by Nancy Bush, the last of them ending with that quoted line. Neither composer nor poet has tried to update his style. Words and music met in simple, romantic evocation of gondolas, pigeons in St Mark's Square, and the city in a storm. The vocal line is as graceful as the piano part is tasteful in imagery. No artists could have lavished more care on the songs than Dame Janet and her partner.

This was not the only premiere. The second half began with five new settings of Philip Larkin poems by André Previn himself. Though not exactly a cycle, they are to an extent linked by a theme of emptiness, of vanished joy, caught musically in uncommonly sparse piano parts. Not a word is obscured in the clear-cut vocal line, often striking in details of word painting. Previn also is no modernist, but these songs emerged as rather more of our time. Not the least effective was "Friday night in the Royal Station Hotel", underpinned by the rhythm of a slow waltz. All praise to Dame Janet for memorising these songs too, and, as the phrase goes, so completely making them her own.

For the rest she travelled from the seventeenth to the early twentieth century with Cavalli, Haydn, Schumann and Fauré. Nothing from the earlier period was finer than Haydn's *Scena di Bernice*: its wide tessitura and sharp contrast of mood drew out the voice in full glory and variety, as well as reminding us of this artist's ever-growing dramatic gifts.

Schumann's *Frauen liebe und Leben* was at once simple yet intense, every experience lived through without a trace of sentimentality. The unusually fast, breathless excitement of "Ich kann's nicht fassen" was a charming touch. As far her closing group of Fauré, the only word for it is ravishing. Mr Previn was an unfailingly sensitive partner even if sometimes unnecessarily light-weight.

ART GALLERIES

MARLBOROUGH & Albemarle St., W.1
JOHN PIPER Paintings, 1977
and drawings, Oct. 26-Nov. 10, 1977
Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 11-5

PARKIN GALLERY
11, Melcombe St., S.W.1
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Paintings by RUPERT SHEPARD
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THE VICTORIAN ERA
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ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, 1
Burlington House, Piccadilly, W.1
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THOMAS MONNINGTON, P.R.A.
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During October
Selected Drawings, Watercolours
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Tonight at 8 & 11pm
Last performances of
THE PASSION

A selection of the 15th
century York Mystery
Plays
"One of the best things to
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All tickets
£1.50
£1.00
£0.50
£0.25
£0.10
£0.05
£0.02
£0.01

11pm performance in
memory of NT actor Pat
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go to his family.

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an advertisement by R. B. L. Ltd.
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Actors Do You
Love Me?



Patrick Allen and Timothy West

Unparalleled prodigality for Dickens

Hard Times
Granada

Michael Church

There is a very contemporary irony in the fact that Dickens's sparsest, most tightly constructed novel should be the occasion for literally unparalleled prodigality on the part of the programme-makers.

One can see why *Hard Times* so appeals to literary academics: with its stylisation and its clear theoretical underpinning it is tailor-made for near graduate theses. One can

see why it appeals to left-wing historians and sociologists: it may sport some regrettably bourgeois traits in its handling of millitary trade unionism, but its central concern is pure Karl Marx. It is indeed a marvellous book, but it is by no means Dickens's best. His fancy—or, if you like, his genius—is simply on too tight a rein.

Arthur Hopcraft's skilful adaptation utterly vindicates the decision to visit Coketown now, for this is the same old re-educationists are currently best at. Directors have never been so adept at presenting the spirit of time and place, at relating character to milieu, or at showing the shock waves as

one social stratum grates on another. The first 50 minutes of this production represents a highly successful bid to fan Coketown into life. In the exquisite opening frames a grim industrial watercolour subtly animated itself until lunched human figures filled the smoky blue gloom. Slavery's Horseferry was developed into an alternative polarity: the circus, rumbling through the infected streets, became a life-force to counter the deadening capitalist machine. The crowd scenes, some straight out of Doré, some strangely reminiscent of *Les enfants du paradis*, were beautifully orchestrated; director John Irvin and designer Roy Stonehouse have thoroughly

mastered their mass of period detail. The squalor and misery of Stephen Blackpool's life was poignantly set against the comfortable grossness of his employer's. Patrick Allen's Gradgrind and Timothy West's Bounderby strode through the action like evil deities. The logical, factual schoolroom and the tribulations of Girl Number 20 took on their proper cosmic significance. So, thumbs up, but with one reservation: the characters sound too modern, and far too southern. At £4,000 per televised minute, care might well have been lavished on those unimportant aspects of the actors' disguise, accent and intonation.

An operatic find

Bruscantini/Meyer
Theatre Royal, Wexford.

William Mann

The comic leg in this year's Wexford Opera Festival is itself a tripod, a triple bill devised by Sesto Bruscantini who has also produced, and appears in, all three works.

Cimarosa's *Il maestro di cappella* (a present-day confection derived from his music) is fairly familiar, cleverly popular, a canny rather than an opera, in which the singer rehearses the orchestra in the accompaniment to an aria. Bruscantini gives it a dramatic setting of his own, an elderly opera singer in the audience at a concert, disrupted by the heart, urged by his neighbours to do better—which, alas, he no longer can. A touch of pathos is added to the vividly appreciated humour: the singer's orchestral mastery is particularly vivid. His own, his Ruth Draper's ability to people empty chairs with members of an eighteenth-century audience. The familiar text (itself not authentic) is augmented by some extra phrases in which the orchestra does exactly the opposite of what the maestro asks.

Any cynic inclined to connect the past with the present singer had to jettison his preconceptions. The two companion operas which found Bruscantini's voice and physique in robust, sparkling condition.

Pergolesi's *La serva padrona* has bored many an audience with its flimsy, drawn-out plot and repetitious musical invention. This time, for me at least, it seemed agreeable, even mildly amusing, and that in spite of the coy antics assigned to the dumb servant Vespetta (Angela Agnelli, a lady in trousers). Bruscantini dared not to enjoy the music for Uberto, the henpecked and weak, very human, master of an impossible ménage. Carmen Lavani bent his and our ears with still relentless energy, with her prettiness and underlying charm, showed why Serpina was successful (her aria "A Serpina penserete" in two tempi and moods was exemplary in that respect) and roused expectations for her contribution to the third of the evening's operas.

This was *La serva e l'usero* (The Servant and the User) by Luigi Ricci (1808-50), one of two composers brothers who kept the flag of Italian comic opera energetically flying in the unpopular wake of Rossini and Donizetti. The enterprise was laudable, the resurrection of *La serva e l'usero* decidedly worth while. The piece, five musical numbers for five singers without chorus (only two arias, and they turn into ensemble), is remembered if at all for the Omelette Aria, in which the servant of the title prepares unworldly to cook the dinner. She is singing in the bacchante register, because the wearer of the disguise is a young man in love with the daughter of the household; in company, when disguised, the hero has to sing falsetto, and among the special pleasures of the performance was the effortless stamina with which Michael Lewis, otherwise a baritone of

forthright and likeable quality, sustained the countertenor range, weakly and euphoniously, even when switching back and forth between registers.

While the hero is thus travestied, his sweetheart decides to try on her military fancy-dress for that evening's birthday party. They meet in the kitchen (a lovingly cluttered set by Tim Reed) and the husband decides to make up to the new servant with results at once droll, piquant, and musically vital (as is the whole of Ricci's score, no masterpiece but admirably tasteful, inventive and poised). The kitchen-maid then confronts Angela's official author, a handsome euphoric fop, with a pair of pistols, inducing the memorable exchange: "Mad woman! No, a madman!"

Bruscantini's part (that of the father) in this uncommonly effective comedy is small though telling: he chiefly added to his laurels for the evening by his astutely timed production of the intrigue. Bonaventura Bortone prodded and grinned hilariously, and sang his aria with hysterical elegance. Miss Lavani's deft, musically singing as Angela, particularly in the *bravura* finale, and her delicious impersonation of the loveless, browbeaten daughter, fulfilled all expectations. James Judd's spruce direction of all three operas, as conductor, stylish and well balanced, added much to the merits of an exhilarating evening.

Wexford Festival is bigger than its operatic syllabus. There are exhibitions, and other side-shows, of all kinds, besides concerts, recitals, and Mozart's *Requiem* next Saturday. Last Saturday afternoon brought Kerstin Meyer, with a pianist, Jonathan Hinden, as omnipotent as discreet, and a song programme apt to her broad musical range of interests and acute interpretative powers. At first, in Mahler and Wolf, the emotional effort was greater than the impact, though there were individual revelations, witness the middle section of Wolf's "Auf einer Wanderung", the enraptured suspense marvelously conveyed.

Her gifts as singing actress were ideally deployed in Grieg's song-cycle *Haugussa*: the diverse emotions of the young girl, sometimes childish, sometimes altogether womanly, all the time developing, were immediately suggested, the cumulative effect of the cycle most poignant. But then her theatrical experience was used purposefully in each one of Ravels' *Histoires naturelles*, vocal characterization bound up with appropriate gestures and grimaces, whether absurd, touching, or wholly real. She sang Granados as one who understands the Spanish temperament completely, pride, sensuality, instinctive shyness beyond such matters as waywardly disciplined rhythm and diction that everybody could understand. Finally she offered her native Swedish, in a song by Sibelius: it was not more expert than her French or Norwegian *Lendana*, or other protean polyglot feats. Her tone was often forced into a wobble, unnecessary in Wexford's tiny theatre, but what an artist, delightful or touching, she is!

The penalty of fame

The Caretaker
Greenwich

Irving Wardle

I wish it were possible to banish the memory of Max Wall the stand-up comedian in following his excursions into the serious repertory. It is not so much that you expect him to scupper the proceedings with a wild ad lib or a laughter-quelling glare: but that recollection of his five-minute sketches inclines you to doubt his ability to develop a character over a full-length show. There has been my impression of his Greenwich appearances in Beckett and Shakespeare, and the same goes for his performance as Harold Pinter's tramp.

Whatever other meanings may be extracted from *The Caretaker*, it is certainly about an alteration in character. The down-and-out Davies is given somewhere to live and probably for the first time in his life sees a chance of laying claim to a bit of territory he can call his own. A lifetime's servility suddenly changes to proprietorial assertiveness which turns venomous when it is threatened.

Perhaps all that would be clear to anyone seeing Mr Wall for the first time. But to my eyes it seems that he arrives with a fixed, detailed image of Davies that alters hardly at all from that moment on. He comes

on in an old overcoat scrupulously belted with a piece of string, affecting a carefully genteel accent as befits a guest, and promptly casts etiquette to the winds when he learns about the black neighbours.

The speeches rumble along hitting forcefully comic climaxes, all of which pass over the head of Peter Guinness's Aston, a bowed stationary figure with hands dangling from an abbreviated jacket. The pace and vocal contrast of these two is beautifully calculated. That, however, is practically all I could find in Mr Wall's performance, apart from an affecting turn of pathos at the end, and his ludicrously stomach-turning nocturnal ramblings. What seems lacking is the added panic and violence that arise from his involvement with the two competing heads of the house. He is also apt to punctuate the dialogue with grunts and bronchial explosions; and to dwell on passing detail at the expense of rhythmic flow.

The same applies to Anthony Higgins's Mick, who lingers longly over his visions of the redoubtable hotelier, at the expense of achieving the contrast in tempo with the slow-thinking Aston. It is good to see a revival of this beautiful play, and Paul Joyce's production does offer some pleasures (not least Voytek's richly beguiled setting), but the play needs more music than it gets here.

John Barrymore
King's Head

Ned Chaillet

Live theatre feeds on its past, concerned always to show that the plays and players which have gone before live on, that not only the priored word and Hollywood films survive. Even so, when it dredges up biographical revelations of its well-worn actors, it is often broken by failure or broken by success, it often seems to set reflected glory from tarnished fame.

David Kwiat, a young American actor, is treading the stage of the King's Head Theatre at lunchtime, wearing the decaying bedroom slippers and dressing-gown of John Barrymore. The stage passes for Barrymore's dressing-room in a Chicago Theatre in 1940, two years before he was to die. The words, connected by a steady draining of all alcoholic beverages in the room, are a series of anecdotes and declamations by Barrymore, touching on his sex life, his aspiration to be an artist, his philosophy of acting and the wages of three bad

marriages, crippling alimony payments.

Mr Kwiat's script, the result, according to the programme, of two years' research, is confessional but bombastic, a monologue in the language of bad drama and deflated Shakespeare. There is more irony than pathos in the tales and, to say the least, in the telling, but the exaggeration with sibilants and Mr Kwiat slurs them as much when he begins drinking as when he has finished drinking and stumbles, uncertainly and late, towards the stage.

Mr Kwiat looks like some pictures of Barrymore, with painted wrinkles and the beloved moustache, but his command of the character is limited somewhat by the limited vocabulary of his bleak melancholy. His delivery is snappish asides to the unseen stage manager, but, without skimming, the performance covers much of Barrymore's life. Unfortunately, the parts it covers omit the great acting. However legendary his drinking and sex life, it is not his acting which makes him memorable, and all Mr Kwiat offers of that is Barrymore's self-denigrating memories.

Liszt Festival
New Gallery

Paul Griffiths

Michael Gough, reciting *The Blind Singer* in a programme of Liszt melodramas on Monday must have felt rather like the title character of the poem, called on to sing but left to offer his art to the empty air. To be sure, he did have some listeners, but three dozen people hardly make an audience, more a respectable party for a soiree.

Sorries, however, even if they ever could have taken place in a converted cinema, are no more, and recitations with piano accompaniment have died with them. It is not difficult to see why. One cannot attend to narrative and music when the two proceed independently, nor can music, even Liszt's music, attain much when it is placed so firmly in a subordinate position. Moreover, ballads of death and ghostly apparitions are no longer

needed to terrify us; we now have *The Exorcist* and all its progeny.

Nevertheless, *The Mournful Monk* succeeded in making some impression of menace, thanks to Rhonda Gillespie's bravado at the keyboard, to Mr Gough's convincing delivery, to William Mann's translation of the Lenau poem, and to the brevity of the piece. Above all the work remains of interest for its startling and eerie whole-tone harmonies, set down two years before Debussy was born.

Among other curios in the recital were Liszt's transcription of Saint-Saëns' *Danse macabre*, which Miss Gillespie attacked with a will, and four pieces for cello and piano, all of them late. There were several surprises here, not least a bewildering rhythm in the piano accompaniment at the opening of the *Romance oubliée*. But the real find was the arrangement Liszt made of *La légende de la gondolette* which brings out all the music's bitter resentment in the face of death. In that performance, by Lesley Shrigley Jones, its eloquence was almost painful.

London Lassus
Ensemble

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Thomas Walker

If you were to be confined to a desert island with the works of but one sixteenth-century composer for company, whose would you choose? Not that I much relish the prospect, my unhesitating choice would be Lassus for the sheer variety of his music, not to mention its wit and refinement.

Clive Wearing, director of the London Lassus Ensemble who performed on Monday night at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, doubtless agrees, and moreover I suspect he could muster enthusiasm for the idea.

Mr Wearing has organized his group in emulation of the musical chapel of the Dukes of Bavaria, whom Lassus served for many years. If they do not quite match that establishment in size, sex and, one rather hopes, professional standards, the 16 voices and numerous instruments, most of them played by familiar faces on the

early music circuit, none the less make a serious attempt at recreation.

Monday's programme was built round the theme of All Saint's Day, with the first half given over to the austere but sumptuous *Missa "Vinum bonum"* for two choirs. It was a good idea to break up its ments with other sung items of the ceremony, in plain songs and polyphonic settings. Ordinaries are performed as if they were symphonies.

The instruments—recorders, cornets and sackbuts—were a welcome addition, in keeping with festive courtly practice. About the interpretation itself I have stronger reservations. Mr Wearing seemed to have trouble integrating the players into his vocal ensemble. In a *Cappella* sections there was some sense of line, in the rest very little.

The second half was in effect the banquet after the service, with humorous songs in Latin, French, and German. Nearly all were about drink, including the fake motet "Vinum bonum" on which the Mass is based, although the onerous imagery has some concealed allusions to other pleasures. Here spirits were much higher.

'The Elephant Man'

The Elephant Man, a play by Bernard Pomerance, will open at Hampstead Theatre on November 7 with previews from November 3. The cast is David Allister, Arthur Blake, Judy Bridgland, Ken Drury, William Hoyland, David Schofield, Jennie Stoller, and the play is directed by Roland Rees with music by Pat Arrowsmith. This is a co-production between Hampstead Theatre and Foco Novo.

John Merrick (1863-1890)

"the elephant man", made his living as a circus freak because of his congenital deformities. In 1884 Frederick Treves, Surgeon-Extraordinary to Queen Victoria and later Surgeon-General to George V, met Merrick and placed him in the London Hospital where he became a celebrity. Previous plays by Bernard Pomerance include *Hot Damn*, *High In Vietnam*, *Somewhere Else Is Still Someone*, and an adaptation of Brecht's *Men In Man* presented at Hampstead Theatre.

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

English National Opera

regrets the necessity of cancelling the performance of WERTHER on Thursday, October 27, on account of continuing contractual difficulties.

The cancellation of Werther enables the company to safeguard the rehearsal time for the new production of Eurynthe. ENO apologizes for the disappointment that may have been caused to those patrons who had booked for this performance.

Ticket holders should apply to the Box Office or refund or exchange. Tel: 01-836 3181.

Competition may make fares fairer

by Alan Hamilton

There are many ways to cross the Channel, and almost all of them are expensive. There must be few stretches of water in the world where the traveller is asked to pay so much to span 21 miles and never be out of sight of land.

There are none the less, encouraging signs. The Channel ferry has yet to reap the benefits of a full-scale price-cutting war, but a new spirit of competition, at least on the short sea routes, is persuading state and private operators alike to shave off a useful pound or two here and there.

Compare the cost of getting to Paris from London by various methods. Any means of travel which involves an aircraft tends to be expensive. The standard British Airways return fare from Heathrow to Charles de Gaulle is £69, but a weekend excursion or day-before booking can reduce that to £40; travel time from one city centre to the other could be as little as three hours on a good day, helped by the new direct rail connection from Charles de Gaulle to the centre of Paris.

Many business travellers prefer the Silver Arrow service which mixes rail and air at a standard return fare from London to Paris of £46.50. By taking the train to Gatwick, a short hop by British Caledonian to Le Touquet, and a train from the convenient airport station to Paris, the journey can be done in about four and a quarter hours without the need for the tiresome road journey out to Heathrow.

Another way to mix rail and air is to take the train from Liverpool Street to Southampton, board a British Air Ferries' converted Bristol Freighter to Le Touquet, and catch the train to Paris, all within about five hours at a standard return fare of £56. The flight itself costs £34 return, but there are much cheaper excursion returns, the cheapest being a Southampton-Le Touquet day trip for £19. British Air Ferries was the last operator to offer an airborne car ferry service, but it was finally abandoned in February.

One of the most civilized ways left of getting to Paris is by train, all the way. The night ferry leaves Victoria every night at 10 o'clock, and will take you more or less undisturbed in a two-berth sleeper (first class only) to Paris Nord by 8.44 am at a cost of £35; for

£55.80 you can have a sleeper to yourself. The return fare is double, and it is important not to get on the portion of the train that is going to Brussels.

Travelling by train to Dover or Folkestone, taking the ferry or Hovercraft, and picking up the train at the other side, reduces the ordinary second-class return fare from London to Paris to £35.45, or to £23 if you do not mind sitting up all night on the ferry to Dunkirk.

On the short sea routes themselves, a new breath of competitive air has been let in by the recent arrival of Normandy Ferries, a P & O subsidiary, to challenge the comfortably entrenched positions of the two established operators, Sealink (a consortium of British, French, Belgian and Dutch railways) and Townsend-Thoresen, a long-standing independent operator.

Sealink and Townsend have for some time operated what is politely called "harmonization", but which might more properly be called price-fixing. This summer the established operators were persuaded to make a modest reduction in fares on the short sea routes, but which might more properly be called price-fixing.

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Sealink has gone further in recent weeks by announcing that most of its 1977 fares will be pegged for the coming year. For all that, the holiday motorist still pays dearly to go abroad. From next January, the off-season return fare for a family car and four passengers on the Boulogne routes will be £76.80.

Nor is there much to choose on the longer sea routes. A return fare for a full carload on Normandy Ferries Southampton-Le Havre route is within £5 of Townsend-Thoresen on the Portsmouth-Le Havre sailing. All operators offer a variety of package deals for the motorist, and it requires a computer and many weeks of planning to work out which is the best bargain.

One type of cheap fare at present attracting not only considerable publicity but a healthy amount of new business is the day excursion. When, in 1976, Normandy Ferries launched its French Scraper day return fare to

Boulogne, with a bottle of duty-free spirits thrown in, it attracted 30,000 customers in its first season. Recently Sealink has been attracting 1,000 day trippers a day to Boulogne, and up to 200 French raiders in the opposite direction, all making for Marika and Spencer or Canterbury Cathedral.

This winter Normandy Ferries is offering its Seasker again for £8.50, with a bottle of spirits and 200 cigarettes thrown in. Sealink has countered with a day return fare to Boulogne of £5. As a bottle of whisky on a Normandy Ferry costs £3.30, it will become apparent that you do not get much for nothing in this life, especially on Channel ferries.

Boulogne is a pleasant town with good shopping, but too full of Watney signs to feel really like abroad. The duty-free allowances are undoubtedly the major attraction for the day tripper, and Normandy has recognized this by building a proper duty-free supermarket on the main deck of their vessel Lion.

Otherwise, there is not a lot to choose between the shipboard services of the various operators, the short sea route operation being more akin to National Bus than Cunard Steamship. Seasoned travellers on Sealink try to catch a French Railways vessel, on which the catering is said to be marginally superior; most vessels, with the exception of British Rail's Vortigern, have waiter-service restaurants in addition to their cafeterias. And all now have comfortable high-backed seats in their lounges.

The traditional ship still offers undoubted attractions over the Hovercraft, in spite of its greater speed of the latter. Many Hovercraft travellers find them bumpy and cramped, but a recent decision by British Rail to speed up its Hovercraft service from January and bring fares into line with traditional ships will be an added attraction.

Two new, larger Hovercraft are scheduled for the Dover-Boulogne Calais routes next year, and a new hoverport is under construction at Dover. In the absence of a tunnel or a bridge, we are stuck with this highly expensive stretch of water, on which there is still room for more private operators with enterprise. The only alternative is for the new M20 which is said to inhibit 10 Downing Street in 1981; international airmail services between the two capitals began in 1919. The telegraph cable, which opened in 1951, has been followed by ever more complex cables and circuits, and telex (1947).

It is now becoming possible to send computer data by telephone, and to have immediate access to scientific and technical data stored in computers in many European countries. But if the services are becoming more sophisticated, so are the customers.

Mr. Michael Corby, who used to work with the Post Office and is now director of the Mail Users' Association, said that his members

by John Guttridge

The fundamental role played by the freight industry in international trade was neatly summed up by Sir David Orr, Unilever's chairman, recently when he told the Freight Transport Association conference that exporters looked to the industry to complete the sale by ensuring that their goods reached the customer in prime condition, on time, at a reasonable cost, and in the right form.

Failure by the freight industry meant the manufacturer had a job on his hands if he were to obtain repeat orders. For that reason, interruptions to freight movement should be regarded as challenges and not accepted as inevitable.

In exporting to France, and indeed to the many other European countries to which the natural route lies through France, one encounters far too many challenges for comfort—challenges which are all the more surprising given that the aim of the EEC is to expand trade between member states whereas control and restriction of the transport market can only frustrate this end.

To many British exporting companies EEC membership was seen as making France a simple extension of the home market. The short haul route operation being more akin to National Bus than Cunard Steamship. Seasoned travellers on Sealink try to catch a French Railways vessel, on which the catering is said to be marginally superior; most vessels, with the exception of British Rail's Vortigern, have waiter-service restaurants in addition to their cafeterias. And all now have comfortable high-backed seats in their lounges.

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to France in much the same way as to Manchester or Birmingham. That was the theory. In practice, however, the theory has not been eliminated.

Paperwork has been simplified by the abolition for intra-EEC movements of the Transport International Routier (TIR) customs carnet in favour of the CT system but we still have the wasteful farce of two consecutive sets of customs, transport checks, and in certain instances sanitary checks, one taking place at the British port and the other at the French. In other words the ferry is a link between two lorry queues.

It is worst for vehicles coming into the United Kingdom, for the British preference is to check most of the inward journey and the French to concentrate on the outward journey. A coordinated approach would save time, money and paperwork.

Outward checking is the EEC policy and Britain is supposed to come into line by the end of 1979. The biggest hindrance of all, and regrettably also the most artificial one, is that created by the restrictive permit quota for road transport. In tough negotiations the British Government has managed to obtain a doubling of the quota over the past six years but demand still runs ahead of supply, and there are no signs of real liberalization.

The prime reasons for French intransigence are strictly contrary to the EEC spirit—to protect the domestic railway network and to ensure that French hauliers obtain a share of the traffic on other than commercial grounds.

There is also the political creature to the United Kingdom Government's equal intransigence on the subject of increased vehicle weights.

As a result, goods are not necessarily dispatched by the most efficient or economic means but, particularly in the case of urgent consignments and contracts which start flowing in the latter part of the permit year, by the haulier who happens to have an unused permit. France and Italy do not allow own account movements (goods moved by manufacturers and traders in their own vehicles) to be quota free.

Another burdensome product of bureaucracy is in the form of a double penalty on British hauliers for French hauliers having an opportunity to use the French hauliers' permits.

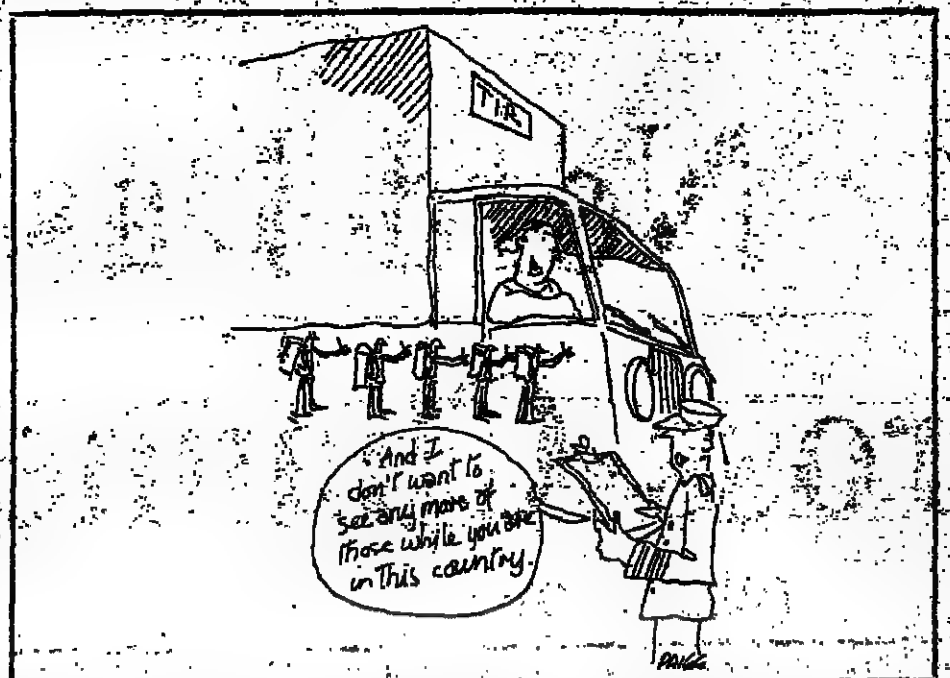
Mr. Corby argued that the cross-Channel services, particularly those of British Airways and Channel Ferries, were not by the Post Office but by the Universal Postal Union—an international association of postal authorities.

Most of the members of the Mail Users' Association are firms or organizations which rely heavily on the mail to transact their business. The Reader's Digest Association is the one most frequently mentioned, but there are about two hundred others.

These firms are particularly sensitive to price increases even on the subject of prices Mr. Corby's case was tempered by an acknowledgment that they were partly out of the Post Office's hands.

There was no doubt, he said, that productivity in the Post Office mail-handling was so poor as to materially affect prices. His members felt strongly that, as profits were easier to make on the international mail, the Post Office was in effect soaking the users of this service to make up for financial short-

Coordination of customs checks could eliminate bottlenecks



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Despite a reputation for making the Channel the most expensive piece of water, the ferry companies have provided industry with a surprisingly good service. There is still, however, a tendency (though not as high as it was) to allow freight traffic to be outbooked for traffic at peak times, tempering of the first-come first-served approach. This in turn means that industry provides the essential income in winter would be welcome.

To put this gloomy perspective into perspective it is encouraging to note that overall Britain's exports and the transport industry which serves them have successfully met the challenge.

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Uncertainty dogs mail deliveries

by Ross Davies

biggest concern was the high cost of mail services, particularly those of British Airways and Channel Ferries, were not by the Post Office but by the Universal Postal Union—an international association of postal authorities.

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Circulating the news of Ali Baba's cave

London, according to the newspaper *Channel Express*, is "la caverne merveilleuse d'Ali Baba". When the newspaper also carries advertisements with such blandishments as "Bienvenue chez Willerby Tailors", it is not difficult to guess its intended readership.

The *Channel Express* is the inspiration of Mr. Frank Howitt, a seasoned former *Daily Express* journalist who abandoned the frenetic life of Fleet Street for the quieter pastures of Deal, Kent, two years ago. He soon realized that, with a tumbling pound, shopping trips to England for continental visitors were about to become very big business indeed.

He was further persuaded when, early last year, he took his wife on a day trip to Calais, and was irritated to find a total lack of information on where they might buy some good cheese, and have a decent meal. The result was *Channel Express*, first published in May last year and now approaching its eighth edition.

The paper, written partly in French and partly in Dutch, is distributed free on board Sealink and Townsend-Thoresen ferries; 150,000 copies have been printed of recent editions, and all have been taken. Four fifths of all copies are circulated on board ship, the remainder going to Sealink and British Tourist Authority offices in France, Belgium and Holland.

The paper, published every two months, aims to give its readers as much practical information as possible, including street maps of the West End, and English clothes sizes. The advertisements are helpful,

too, supplying the reader with useful English phrases like "Please may I have an Electrolux".

Last year a total of 500,000 visitors of all nationalities came to Britain for the prime purpose of shopping, and 150,000 of those were day trippers from the Continent, of whom well over half were French. Nine out of 10 foreign shoppers buy clothes; and food, china, glass and electrical appliances are other popular items.

Figures compiled by the Department of Trade suggest that the French bring less money on their shopping trips than the Belgians, who come armed with an average of £100 per head. Two thirds of French shoppers bring £50 or less, and they tend to be young, most being in the 25-34 age group. The most popu-

lar jumping-off point is Boulogne, but a growing number come on the longer sea routes from Dieppe and Le Havre.

Mr. Howitt explained: "Many trippers come with huge shopping lists for their friends and neighbours, who have clubbed together to pay the fare. Many come time after time to stock up with clothes, food and household equipment."

Such is the growing popularity of shopping trips on the longer routes that Mr. Howitt plans a new edition of *Channel Express* for the Newhaven-Dieppe route next year.

Shoppers on the longer routes tend to make for London as soon as they land, but the day trippers from Boulogne and Calais raid the shops of Dover and Folke-

The Region of Nord-Pas-de-Calais and Cross-Channel Communications

"Nord-Pas-de-Calais a land of men, free towns, of freedom.
A welcoming land, the Pays Franc".

The Pays Franc is the name given to the Nord and Pas-de-Calais regions. It is a part of France that is essentially European—open to the sea, and close to England, Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands.

The Pays Franc is Lille-Roubaix-Tourcoing, Lens-Lievin, Douai, Dunkirk, Bethune, Denain, Bruay-en-Artois and Clais—all towns with a population of more than 100,000. It also boasts three of France's chief ports—Boulogne, Calais and Dunkirk.

The Pays Franc means 4 million people, 1.4 million of whom are employed. Of these, one person in every two is employed in industry, four persons in every ten are in the service sector and one person in twelve is employed in agriculture.

In the Pays Franc seven people out of ten live in a town with more than 20,000 inhabitants.

The Pays Franc is a young country—one person in three is less than 20 years of age.

CROSS-CHANNEL LINKS BY AIR

Passengers	Lesquin/London	Le Touquet/England	Calais-Marek/England
Commercial			
(arrivals/departures) ..	14,521	100,037	3,161
General traffic			
(arrivals/departures) ..	—	44,984	—
Cars (to 31.10.1976)	—	782	—
Frequency of daily flights	6	Le Touquet/Southend 14 Le Touquet/Gatwick 14	—

CROSS-CHANNEL LINKS BY SEA 1976

	Dunkirk	Calais	Boulogne
Total passengers arriving and departing	348,642	4,169,397	1,395,432
—By ferry service	—	2,939,484	958,595
—By hovercraft	—	1,226,461	436,837
—By cruise ship	—	3,452	—
Total number of cars (tourist and commercial vehicles) arriving and departing	31,800	887,599	184,135
—By ship	—	672,371	130,828
—By hovercraft	—	215,228	53,307
Total amount of goods in tonnes	839,162	3,587,113	2,047,918

The Calais Chamber of Commerce recently showed its sense of humour by publishing a booklet under the title "The 23 known Ways of crossing the Channel". The thirty kilometres of water that separate France from Great Britain have always been seen as a challenge to the daring and the British have been just as enthusiastic as their Continental neighbours in devising ways of making the crossing—some less crazy than others—though tending rather to highlight their own achievements. The story is told that at the time when swimming the Channel was still regarded as a considerable feat, an exhausted Frenchman reaching the beach at Dover could hope to be met only by a bonneted member of the Salvation Army, proffering him a religious tract.

Since Blanchard and Jeffries first crossed the Channel by balloon in 1785, the methods used to make the journey have been varied. Blériot, of course, succeeded in doing so by aeroplane in 1909 and was followed by others using such diverse methods of transport as a life-jacket, a helicopter, (1928), an amphibious vehicle, a bathyscaphe and water-skis. In all 23 known methods. There is, however, another one...

The twenty-fourth Way

This is the method which has been known and considered for some considerable time, namely the "Channel" that was to pass below the blue-green waves and link England with France. This was a dream that had been cherished for more than a century and a half but was shattered one sad day of January 1975 when our British friends decided not to go ahead with the project.

In fact, work had begun on both sides of the Channel and had already cost some 400 million francs. Those responsible in the Department of Nord-Pas-de-Calais were very disappointed at the decision, knowing the harm which the region would suffer as a result of the refusal. Their disappointment was put into words by Pierre Mauroy, President of the Regional Council, as also by Pierre Delmon, Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee, and Robert Delesalle, President of the Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry, who still continued to hope...

"The Tunnel is a necessity and facts are more obstinate than men and governments; they will end up winning the day..." True, Anthony Crosland, British Minister for the Environment, did say when announcing the news to the House of Commons that such work as had already been carried out would be maintained in the best possible manner so that the project could be revived when circumstances were favourable. Was this an empty promise? We should not necessarily take it as such and it is taken seriously on the French side of the Channel. Why? Because we remember a similar interruption in the tunnel work begun on the French side in 1875 and abandoned in 1932. The 92 metre shafts dug near Calais at that time were to be utilised again in 1972 when the new project was to be utilised again. And so we still have faith that one day the tunnel will become reality—even though it will demand a great deal of patience.

The importance of the seaboard

Why did the Channel project arouse so much interest in the Nord-Pas-de-Calais region and why have hopes not yet been stilled? Because this region, which geographically is part of north-west Europe, needs to trade with Belgium and the Netherlands as well as with Great Britain and Germany. Its industry, which is strong despite the

many difficulties which face it, is now forced to cling to the coastline. As early as 1971 official plans for the development of the Nord-Pas-de-Calais region laid great stress on the advantage to the area of the coastline which extends from the Belgian frontier to the River Somme. It is general knowledge that both technical and economic considerations have caused the steel industry to move nearer the coast and that this movement was what precipitated the great expansion of Dunkirk. The chief factor behind this revolutionary change was the sharp drop in the cost of transport by sea—one has only to think of the size of oil tankers today—which has transformed the economic map of the world and made easily accessible sources of supply that it was previously impossible to tap. The sea has even been referred to as "a new source of raw materials". This trend, visible everywhere, encourages the establishment of primary industry directly on the coast.

Advantages of Location

To these economic factors others must be added. Thus the Nord-Pas-de-Calais region is located where the sea is sufficiently deep to allow access to vessels of the maximum foreseeable tonnage and is able to draw on the considerable manpower potential of the most densely populated areas of Western Europe—two considerations of importance for the future of the region. Already the main shipping routes of the world converge on the Channel and the North Sea and every year the Pas-de-Calais sees more than a thousand million tonnes of raw materials and finished products being transported from or to the most powerful economic complex in the world. The northern coast of France is situated at one end of the area of high industrial concentration which stretches from the Ruhr to Belgium, the Netherlands and France and then across the Channel to the industrial complexes between London and Manchester. These advantages gain in importance when we consider that the ports of the Rhine delta, Antwerp, Amsterdam and Rotterdam are fast reaching saturation point.

New Infrastructures

In the past, the northern ports of Dunkirk, Calais and Boulogne saw their expansion inhibited by the lack of sufficient inland waterways or a network of roads linking them efficiently with the ports of the Rhine estuary, the Meuse, the Escaut, the industry of the Rhineland and even that of the Paris region. This no longer holds true today, even though there is still much to be done. The important Dunkirk-Valenciennes waterway will soon be linked to the rivers and canals of Belgium while the motorways between Lille and Dunkirk, Lille and Paris and Brussels and Paris, as also that under construction between Calais and Basle, which will pass through Arras, Reims and Dijon, already constitute a vital network of communications. Needless to say, since the Channel tunnel project was abandoned, priority has been given to the development of high-speed trains running between Arras, Lille and Brussels and from Brussels to London via Lille and Calais.

Three Ports

All this has tended to enhance the importance of the ports of Dunkirk, Calais and Boulogne and despite present difficulties it is the desire of the regional authorities to continue to develop and extend them. Much of the future

of the region will be played out on the coasts of the Channel and the North Sea which are so close to Great Britain.

As well placed as Le Havre to receive large vessels and with a reserve equal in size to the port of Rotterdam while able to serve a hinterland extending beyond their own immediate region into adjoining regions of France, part of Benelux and the Rhineland, the three ports of Dunkirk, Calais and Boulogne see their role as a markedly European one and are naturally equipped to play a great part in links between France and Great Britain. The fact that the distance separating the two countries is rendered negligible by the growing efficiency and density of communications is thought in the Nord-Pas-de-Calais region to be increasingly symbolic. Is this a mistake? Is it wrong to believe still that the important industrial area around London and the largest industrialised area on the continental mainland in many respects complement each other?

Cross-Channel Links

This is the present reality and future prospects of cross-Channel links. The latter have always existed in the very nature of things but their spectacular development in less than a century underlines their vital importance. Largely dependent upon the closer bonds which now join Great Britain to Europe, these links are continuously developing but are undergoing an unprecedented change at a technical level which means a greater speed and better quality of service, whether we are thinking of the transport of passengers, vehicles or goods. The introduction of the hovercraft which moves on a cushion of air is perhaps the most spectacular illustration of this progress but much has also been accomplished by British Rail, the French Railways and by the various shipping companies. We find on both sides of the Channel evidence of a desire to keep pace with a traffic which has gone on increasing with the years.

The three ports of Boulogne, Calais and Dunkirk enjoy important, but different, advantages but the cross-Channel traffic that has in each case built up over the past few years has aroused a good deal of comment.

Boulogne-sur-Mer

The following facts have recently been ascertained: In two years the port of Boulogne now receives as many passengers as it did in the whole of the nineteenth century. The port station is able to accommodate three vessels simultaneously. The train connection with Paris (11 trains in either direction daily) has recently been improved by the taking into service of two turbo-trains.

Situated as it is on the straight line between London and Paris, the port of Boulogne takes full advantage of the possibilities offered by roll on/roll off traffic. In addition to the two berths of the *gare maritime* serving Dover and Folkestone and the Ro-Ro quay of the Loubet dock, Boulogne has a third berth close to the Commerce dock which is designed to handle larger vessels and covers an area of eleven hectares of land recovered from the sea. The latter alone could produce an increase in goods traffic of the order of 400,000 tonnes per year. There are other important plans for expansion, such as that to extend the ore-handling quay by some 300 metres to enable it to handle vessels of between 60,000 and 80,000 tonnes.

Since commercially Boulogne is mainly oriented towards the roll on/roll off passenger and tourist vehicle traffic, it hopes to benefit considerably from the increase

in the number of car ferry services and the greater capacity of the giant hovercrafts.

In 1958 Princess Margaret was present at the opening of the first continental hoverport, the terminal at Boulogne. This new type of traffic has burgeoned to such an extent that there are now plans for the construction of new facilities able to cope with as many as 10,000 passengers on peak traffic days. This expansion will be carried out in close cooperation with the authorities in Dover, where a new hoverport is being planned.

Calais

Of the three ports of the region, Calais is the nearest to England—a fact which led to its becoming the main French port handling passenger traffic. In 1975 it broke through the 4,000,000 passenger barrier, thus earning the title of the "English port on the Continent". There is no doubt that Calais most of all was disappointed by the cessation of the Channel project but handling as it does half the total number of passengers passing through all French ports, it was already extremely well equipped and its facilities have been constantly expanded with the encouragement of the Chamber of Commerce since this is also the chief vehicle handling port.

The outer harbour is provided with four floating berths which permits a fast turnaround of vessels, particularly during the summer period when a ship leaves the port every thirty minutes. Calais has also seen considerable growth in the number of goods lorries handled, with the result that a fourth berth for car ferries and a ten hectare parking area have been brought into service.

Hovercraft have been operating from the port since 1966, though this traffic really got under way in 1969 with the opening of the hoverport which covers an area of 12 hectares to the north-east of Calais.

Other important plans for the future include the moving of the East Jetty to make room for a road haulage terminal. The goods transport sector has also undergone marked expansion as a result of the roll on/roll off traffic passing through the port.

Dunkirk

Dunkirk has grown considerably over the past few years because of the siting of the steel industry on the coast and of the increased imports of ore and petroleum products. However, since the "rapid-handling" port of Gravelines situated to the west of Dunkirk came into operation in 1976, the latter has also assumed a more important role in cross-Channel traffic. This has made it possible to substantially cut the time required for the crossing and to shorten loading and unloading times. The new fast handling port means that Dunkirk is only some two and a half hours away from Dover. The port is relying less on an expansion in passenger traffic than on that of accompanied vehicles, heavy lorries and goods. Traffic overall is expected almost to double between 1980 and 1991 while the movement of goods is expected to grow at a rate of 4% to 5% a year. Here again, the roll on/roll off system has proved its advantages for short-haul transport. Dunkirk also expects to see an upturn in container traffic—though more in the longer term—and this would also mean a great increase in the amount of traffic to be handled by the port of Dover. Hitherto British traffic has accounted for some 10% of total inland water traffic handled by Dunkirk—a figure which is expected to grow rapidly.

REGION NORD-PAS-DE-CALAIS

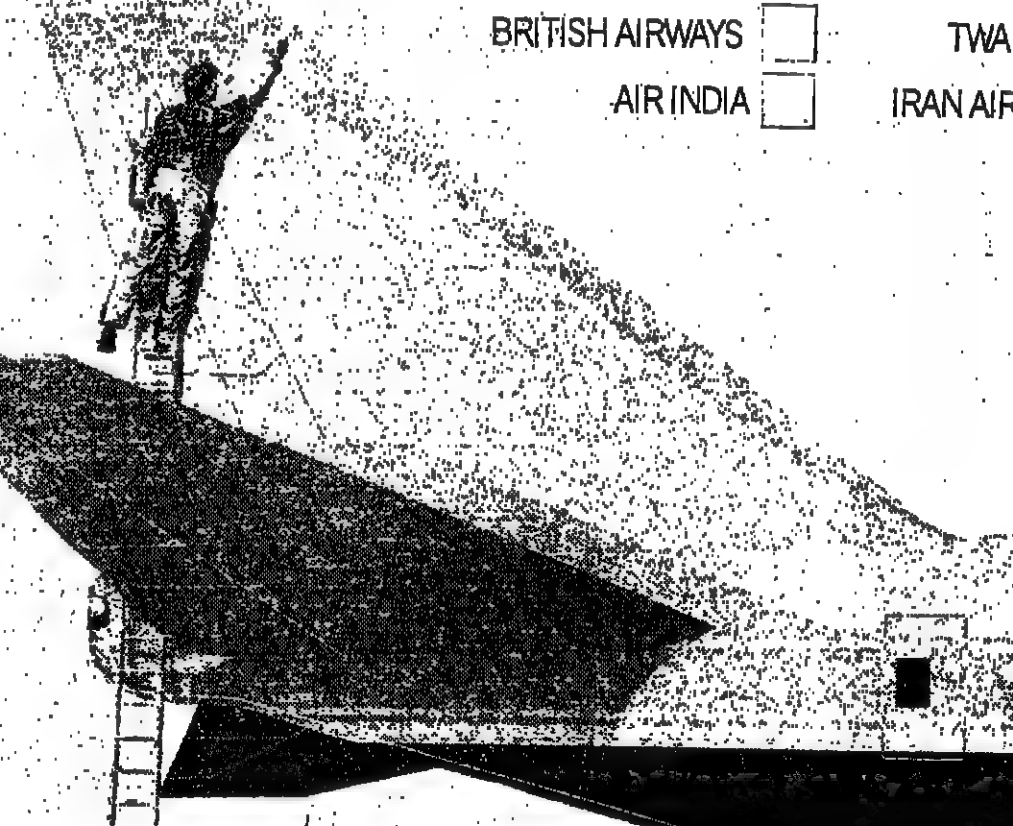
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in

most comfortable planes in the sky. Which one?

BRITISH AIRWAYS ☐ TWA ☐

AIR INDIA ☐ IRAN AIR ☐



There are only five airlines that operate a daily service direct between London and New York. Which of these is amongst them?

AIR FRANCE
NATIONAL AIRLINES
IRAN AIR
EL AL

New York
London

BRITISH AIRWAYS ☐ IRAN AIR ☐ LUFTHANSA ☐ TWA ☐

TRY ME!

TRY ME!!

TRY ME!!

TRY ME!

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LUFTHANSA ☐

BRITISH AIRWAYS ☐

IRAN AIR ☐



IRAN AIR
The world's fastest growing airline

Bernard Levin

William Frankel

Soviet Union. Permission was refused; he was immediately dismissed (as are all applicants for exit-visas), expelled from scientific councils and the editorial boards of learned publications, and turned into an Un-person. This last transformation, however, was more difficult to achieve in the case of Professor Levich than in many others, for although it was comparatively simple for all his Soviet publications to be withdrawn and suppressed, his work was referred to in scholarly publications else-

where, due to be published under scientific auspices in the Soviet Union; this resulted on one occasion in an extraordinarily Orwellian episode, when an American paper on the subject of "electron transfer reactions" contained 38 references to an important contribution in this field by Professor Levich and a colleague named Dogonadze. When the paper was photographically reproduced in the appropriate Soviet journal, there were 37 white spaces, where the name of Levich had been blanked out.

from the author's references to "Levich-Dogonadze". (Only 37; the censor had missed one. I wonder what happened to him?)

Early in 1974, Professor Levich was told officially that he was not being detained because of any knowledge he might have of secret or defence information (hardly surprising in view of the fact that he had not worked on anything even potentially secret since 1949), that his children would be allowed to leave within six

and who was one of the organizers of the conference), which was held at the University of Oxford. The conference was devoted to the Physics-Chemical Hydrodynamics. But whatever the symbolic significance of, so to speak, dedicating the Oxford conference to Professor Levich, the contents of it were strictly and entirely scientific. It was only a matter of taste as to what stuff was to be put at the outside of this column that concerned the participants (it is worth pointing out that the sponsors included seven presidents of national academies of science and 19 Nobel Laureates), and even Professor Levich himself suggested this was true for him. The nature of course, be very nice.

The proceedings of the Oxford conference will be published in due course, and will be interesting to see what the Soviet authorities and their scientific community think about the papers. I should like to see the Soviet scientists do, no doubt, included more than Soviet scientists working in the fields covered by the conference would wish, or even need, to know about, it is hard to see how it can be suppressed. It is a pity that the effects of the intellectual bankruptcy and moral turpitude of a society which can behave thus. (A) which it may be added, claim not only to honour science above all disciplines, but even to rest on a scientific prin-

But this remains to be seen and beyond questioning is the fact that at the recent Moscow Book Fair Professor Levor Theoretical Physics (published there in 1962, and republished in 1971, just before his death fell from favour), was one of those removed by the Soviet Government from scientific life. I have no further news to count at present on the chance of this renowned scientist being allowed to leave the country, his birth. But there is another aspect of this affair which I must not ignore. I mention, and I shall deal in it Friday.

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**It is men like these that the Labour Party
simply cannot afford to lose**

William Frankel

to their material benefit to do so, because it fulfills their desire for power, because it is seen as a path to social advancement. Some idealists have no interest in politics. They are content to contemplate their ideals without any idea of transforming them into reality. But the good type of politician—and I include these four men in that group—must have both ideals and political realism.

spects and honours those with money, whether that money has been acquired by singing a popular song, developing an acre of land, or cornering the supply of an essential food-stuff, who can be surprised that motor car workers, miners or assistant flight controllers want a greater share of the national cake and use whatever legal weapon is available to gain their ends?

Capitalism has created these

Since none of these things happen today the Government, as representative of the people, must work for an increase in social justice with minimum damage to existing freedoms.

The aim of socialism is to move away from our present competitive, acquisitive, selfish society towards a juster and a

owner of the past. In the interests of justice those powers must be curbed.

Wages must not be left to the free play of the market, so beloved of Conservatives; for under that system the strongest gets the lion's share. Instead they should be based on the just price for labour. I am under no illusions as to the failings of the Labour Party. It is often bigoted, stupid, intolerant, envious, narrow-

Other countries, when Labour Party is taken over by extremists. That time has yet come. If social democrats stay within the party and fight for the ideals for which the party has worked for many years, that day will not come.

But if one by one they go away, the eventual choice will be between a communist party and a society based on laissez-faire capitalism, the worst

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Mental illness is too important to keep quiet about.

Please join us.

Please join us.

**MIND
LET'S CARE
MORE, NOT LESS**

MIND (National Association for Mental Health),
Dept B 22 Harley Street London, W1N 2ED

Costly equipment will be installed at the main provincial centres to provide computer projections of probable future results. To achieve this, the computer will have to feed on an extremely indigestible and complicated electoral system, which happened frequently in the past was that returns that did not favour the ruling party were held back.

I spoke to some of Mr Fry's colleagues in London about him and they told me it would be easier to step through a brick wall than find a flaw in his technical know-how.

I sat, feeling crumpled and inferior, all yesterday morning and watched the Tallor of the Year competition organised by the Victorian Automobile Club. Tallors as well turned out, a bunch of men as you could wish to meet away from Savile Row. The object of the exercise was to decide (a) whose workmanship was best and (b) how did the final product fit the intended victim.

I have to report that (a) had already been decided and (b) proved that the most original fashion show I have ever seen.

The reason it was original was that the models were not professionals but the men for whom the clothes were un-

kins. Instead we had a very human merchant banker, a British-Airways executive and assorted tailors, all family embarrassed at having to parade in front of the public in the papers and friends in the audience waved and winked in encouragement.

I rejoiced when the judges agreed with me: the winning clothes were from the old family firm of Coleman and Son, from Leicester—a beige jacket with 10 black and white stripes, teamed with dark brown trousers. Pat Fisher too made the outfit, modelled it too. He will never be king of the cake-walks, but as a tailor it will be difficult, I think, to put a bespoke in his wheel.

lost every night, but the gamblers sit stoically, showing very little emotion. Down the road, the American has opened a rival emporium and there, in a more relaxed atmosphere, the rich do allow their despair or delight to show.

But this week—another form of madness has hit the town—Monopoly, the real estate trading game invented in the 1930s and made the American household name by Parker Brothers (Fam Group), have spent £250,000 on staging the world Monopoly championship in Monte. The final, lasting two and a half hours,

Top drawers

LASTING SUCCESS is not a commodity that is readily attained in these islands. Two of the best substitutes that we have for it are malt whisky and native carotidosis.

It was therefore apt that today, Glen Grant, Highland Malt Scotch Whisky, should be the market's much-vaunted motto — "from the heart of the covered mountains of Scotland" — announced as it introducing Britain's first new carotidosis next year, a first price of £500.

Glen Grant has used cans of kiltie, sporran, and —

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Costly equipment will be installed at the main provincial centres to provide computer projections of probable future results. To achieve this, the computer will have to feed on an extremely indigestible and complicated electoral system, which happened frequently in the past was that returns that did not favour the ruling party were held back.

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Do you want a horse with a silver-tipped horn and a head with silver-tipped horns and crown, or a plush Edwardian dentist's chair? For you are a suitable case for treatment at Gray's Antique Market, which opened yesterday in a handsome triangular building, just off Oxford Street, originally built by J. T. Wimperis as the headquarters of a Victorian plumbers' merchants.

Bennie Gray, the youngish, curly-haired godfather of the pox of antique markets that has spread over the face of London in the past decade, described it with engaging immod-

marker in the world; a claim that Portobello Road might well dispute.

Stalls of glossy elegance fit for Mayfair have been taken in the market by 126 dealers specializing in amazing stuff from Victorian corkscrews to ethnic craft (beads, no beads), and from grandfather clocks to stuffed heads of large beasts with horns.

Bennie Gray asserted boldly, while strung instruments played and champagne corks popped, that antiques worth £3m went on sale yesterday.

alleged to hint at the feeling of a Donovan Rousseau jungle; that is, less coyly, potted plants and shirts of concealed lightning.

No doubt, if the age of all the objects on sale in years was laid end to end, it would lie from here to eternity. One of the few parts of British industry that flourishes is the art of discovering and manufacturing antiques, and flooding them to tourists.

Mr Gray said, with more candour than he realised: "Grays is above all a dealers' market; which means that we must be able to sell antiques at dealers' prices."

News reaches me from Papua New Guinea that the American champion of the New Guinea liberation campaigners have thrown the world unite — you have nothing to lose but the chain — slogan. The country has introduced new laws from using bottles to feed special circumstances. Finally found out about £150. Papua New Guinea secretary, defeating the new light shows that breast-feed children are variety. Dummies, too, are banned. I agree with that, but for reasons

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CAN UNFAIR BE FAIR?

Not since its momentous judgment in 1954 outlawing segregation in schools has the United States Supreme Court been called on to make a decision of greater importance to the social and educational structure of the country than that in the Bakke case. The Court, sensitive to the enormous practical and political effect its decision will have, may try to decide the issue on narrow grounds, creating as restricted a precedent as possible. If it does that, it is virtually certain that other cases will come before the Court, forcing it eventually to rule on the principle, that of the legality of reverse discrimination.

The facts of the Bakke case are simple, and the issue, stark. Mr Bakke, a white man, was one of more than 2,000 people to apply to the University of California's medical school at Davis. There were 100 vacancies. He was not successful, but 16 black, Hispanic and Asian-American applicants gained acceptance. All of them had lower marks than Bakke, but were able to get places because the medical school had a policy—in the form of a quota—designed to help students from disadvantaged minority groups. Bakke claims that by its refusal of his application, the University had denied him his constitutional right to equal treatment. The University admits discrimination, but justifies it on the ground of policy, not only its own but that of successive United States governments.

The issue raises a genuine dilemma, not least among Americans of enlightened and liberal views, who are divided over it. Two desirable social objectives are in irreconcilable conflict. On the one hand, there is the principle of non-discrimination and equality between men, irrespective of race. On the other, Bakke has a justified grievance that, because of the colour of his skin, and not because of any lack of merit, he has been given inferior treatment to someone of lesser attainment but, in this context, privileged racial group. On the other hand, and especially in the longer-term, the narrowing of the economic, educational and cultural gap between whites and blacks is an objective which has for a long time been

a cornerstone of government policy.

Without some reverse discrimination that cannot be achieved. If Davis medical school were to admit students purely on their educational record, few, if any, blacks would get in, and there would be few black doctors graduating. Multiplying that effect throughout the field of higher education, and in employment (where there is also an active policy of reverse discrimination, usually by quota) would, it is argued, result in the gap between black and white becoming greater, not narrower, with untold political consequences for the future. There is also an element of guilt involved in existing policies: an attempt to make up for wrongs done to minority racial groups in the past by favouring them—sometimes to excess—in the present.

It is not surprising that there has been a certain backlash to policies of reverse discrimination. They involve a degree of social engineering which many white Americans (and people of other countries, including Britain) find unacceptable. They are not convinced that the methods used are the right ones for the objective desired, and are mistrustful of a policy by which individual injustices have to be accepted today for a heralded better society tomorrow, which they are unlikely to see and which, anyway, may not work at all. The record of governments which indulge in social engineering to any substantial extent does not inspire confidence.

It is difficult to know where to draw the line in applying a policy of reverse discrimination, but one distinction can be made. Giving jobs, or university places, to members of disadvantaged groups who are totally unsuited to them by experience or qualifications should not form part of any such policy. Where there is a black candidate who would not be considered for the job or place if he were white, he should not get it. Where, however, the choice is between candidates of roughly equal ability, it might be considered permissible to favour the black candidate. In the Bakke case itself, there is no suggestion that the 16 blacks accepted into the school did not reach the minimum requirements, or that they would not be able to cope with the exams, or could not make

good doctors. That fact makes the Supreme Court's task all the more difficult.

It should not be thought that the issue of reverse discrimination is relevant only to the experience of the United States. It has been considered at some length by the British government, whose conclusion was given legislative effect by section 35 of the Race Relations Act 1976, which exempts from the various forms of unlawful discrimination set out "any act done in affording persons of a particular racial group access to facilities or services to meet the special needs of persons of that group in regard to their education, training or welfare, or any ancillary benefits". Other provisions of the Act provide similar exemption from liability for job-training schemes which benefit disadvantaged racial groups.

The government's attitude to reverse discrimination was set out in the White Paper which presaged the 1976 Act. After accepting the principle that discrimination in favour of or against a racial minority would at first blush, be equally unlawful, the White Paper goes on: "However, if the principle of non-discrimination is interpreted too literally and inflexibly it may actually impede the elimination of invidious discrimination and the encouragement of equal opportunity." The government has therefore accepted—and enshrined in law—the positive contribution that reverse discrimination can make.

Britain has no constitution or Bill of Rights which a rejected white applicant for an educational course or job can invoke in aid. That does not mean that Britain is immune from the possibility of a Bakke-type controversy. More and more British-born blacks and Asians are of the generation just entering employment or tertiary education. Many of them suffer from feelings of frustration caused by imagined or real discrimination against them, and are pressing for compensation in the form of reverse discrimination. If the government goes too far towards meeting those demands, Britain may well have its own disgruntled Bakke. Yet if the government is too reluctant to accept reverse discrimination, the effect will be to increase the general effect of discrimination and disadvantage in society.

JET GOES TO CULHAM—TWO YEARS LATE

Even by the standards of the EEC, two years is a long time for a decision. The siting of the Joint European Torus (JET) project has been discussed at four meetings of ministers responsible for research in the Nine, three meetings of foreign ministers, and once at the summit in the European Council. At times it seemed the project would generate more ill will than cheap energy—its ultimate aim. Belgium, Italy, France, West Germany and Britain all hymned the superior advantages of their proffered site. Most of the rival claimants, most notably Britain, used blocking tactics in the Council of Ministers to defend their claims, with the EEC's four-year research programme as the most common victim.

Yesterday at last the necessary act of political fusion took place at a ministerial meeting in Luxembourg, with a decision in favour of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority's laboratory at Culham, near Oxford. This is welcome on two main counts.

First, Culham appears on balance and by a small margin to be the most suitable site for the project on technical and personnel grounds, though Britain's use might have been better served if this superiority had not been so grossly exaggerated during negotiations. It is little comfort that the West Germans were or much less crude in their

lobbying for their fusion research centre at Garching, in Bavaria, the main rival. Secondly, the JET project will be the first major EEC venture to be sited on British soil. This will give it a certain symbolic value—it will also be the first freshly created joint enterprise under Euratom Treaty law—though it is unlikely to attract the continuing public interest of a full-blown EEC institution.

There are the pluses. On the minus side, the design team at Culham under the direction of a French physicist has been seriously affected by the two years of wrangling and indecision at the political level. The original team of some fifty five scientists has dwindled to thirty four, as those anxious to secure their own future or the education of their children returned to base, or were lured to the United States. It is hoped that some of them may now be persuaded to return.

Equally distressingly, those who remained at Culham have had to see the rival American project at Princeton forging ahead with a full team of some 350, much the same number as the eventual complement required by the JET project at Culham. Although the Americans have been experiencing some problems on the design side, they have enjoyed the benefit of a firm decision to go ahead more than two years ago. The contribution which the JET pro-

ject will make to the use of controlled nuclear fusion is not yet certain. But when the issue at stake is, ultimately, the possibility of providing boundless energy from cheap raw materials, two wasted years can ill be afforded, and will now have to be made good.

It would be a great pity if the lamentable performance of the Nine member states in the JET saga were to act as a deterrent to further cooperation in the field of advanced technology. The interlocking fields of energy, industry and advanced technology are prime candidates for the pooling of the EEC's individually limited but collectively impressive resources of capital and skill. The issues are not always as simple as they may seem: for example, a healthy European desire to compete collectively with the United States of America may conflict with the economic logic for large European companies of benefiting from American know-how.

Yet in many fields the logic of cooperation is strong: the practical inconvenience of competing high-speed train or colour television systems, for example, is obvious. Nowhere is it more inexorable than in so hugely expensive a field as this development. It is to be hoped that the lessons of JET have been learnt, and that it will henceforward become a symbol of fruitful teamwork rather than of futile wrangling.

Future energy sources

From Mr P. M. S. Jones
Mr P. M. S. Jones's arguments (October 17) are unclear. The following clarifications may be helpful. Nuclear stations which already generate economically 14 per cent of our electricity are not alone in saving transmission, distribution, and waste management and other costs, and these are taken into account in the investment decisions the generating boards. Furthermore, such investment is only undertaken if the expected returns sufficiently exceed the costs so that it is hard to see how a situation could arise in which they could "single the nation".

The operational stations have been described as the workhorses of the system by the former chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board. This reflects an excellent reliability. Indeed, of the Magnox stations holds a world record for uninterrupted operation. In 1976-77 the nuclear stations in England and Wales had an average load factor of 77 per cent, whereas only three fossil fuelled stations exceeded 70 per cent. The regular and maintenance of nuclear stations also are consistently lower. There have been years in the construction of advanced gas cooled reactors but this is a problem they have shared with contemporary fossil fuelled stations.

Mr P. M. S. Jones appears to be aware that fast reactors are

already producing electricity in the United Kingdom, France and the Soviet Union and have been doing so for a considerable period. This is not a new but an evolving technology.

In connection with energy demand it has to be remembered that electricity is easily distributed, versatile and efficient in end use. It is produced from low grade fuels and uranium which could not be burnt locally with any greater overall efficiency. By all means let us develop "renewable" sources and adopt conservation measures where these are economic and socially acceptable propositions (see C. F. Clement's letter October 19), but do not forget the only non-fossil large scale dependable energy source in sight.

Yours faithfully,
P. M. S. JONES,
Head, Economics and Programmes,
United Kingdom Atomic Energy
Authority,
11 Charles II Street, SW1.
October 21.

Guerillas in Rhodesia

From Mr Walter H. Salomon
Sir, Earlier this month, the Labour Conference passed a strongly worded resolution calling on the British Government, inter alia, to "give material and moral support to freedom fighters in Zimbabwe". This week the British Council of Churches has published its views

Rhodesia Now: The Liberation of Zimbabwe.

The Churchmen snap short of advocating the use of funds of Christian churches or societies for direct aid to terrorist guerrillas. It has to be remembered that individual Christians or Churches may "feel able to give direct assistance to the guerrillas fighting for self-determination". They further quote the representatives of the "freedom fighters" as "their armed struggle, far from being of 'blood bath' proportions, is responsibly organized" and state that "many pacifists would agree that a distinction can be made between a discriminate and proportionate use of force and unrestricted violence". In my view this shows muddled if not downright wrong thinking on the part of the churchmen. A terrorist war means untold human misery and it means the murder of innocent women and children; there is no hope that it would be responsibly organized or "a controlled means to an end".

The use of terrorist violence is already too widespread. It could destroy us all. The West Germans have had a taste of what the next 20 years may bring as have the long suffering people of Northern Ireland. The British Council of Churches and the members of the Labour Party should think again about what they are advocating. Yours sincerely,
WALTER H. SALOMON,
The Reform Club,
104 Pall Mall, SW1.

Private remarks made public

From Mr Alan Clark, MP for Plymouth, Sutton (Conservative)

Sir, It is interesting (leading article, October 22) that you should defend Sir Richard Dobson's dismissal on the grounds that his remarks "left the impression" that he believed many people "to be inferior". The principle that the human factor is one where it should not be permitted to assert, or act upon, qualitative judgments is certainly one which (because it is so unattractively reinforced by statute penalizing "discrimination") has had to be reinforced by statute. But there is at least one element of comfort to be drawn from the affair—namely, it has confirmed that abstract concepts, ideas, are stronger (and, therefore, in repressive societies, more to be feared) than actions.

It is a well accepted fact of life, recently given the force of law, that there are practically no limits to the personal and practical incoherence of the job holder. Prolonged mismanagement, defective forecasting, gross ill-health, sexual deviance and embezzlement seem to disqualify no one from having their employment "protected". But even the most honest and familiar of executives would be "too big for their boots"—any suggestion that the Emperor, far from having no clothes on, might just possibly have some of his buttons undone is, it seems, invariably offensive to our corporate masters. And are not these I am, Sir, your obedient servant, ALAN CLARK, House of Commons.

From Mr Philip Goldenberg
Sir, I am staggered by the views of some of your correspondents (October 24).

It is indeed a breach of etiquette to record a speech on a private occasion. It certainly is a good thing that people should say what they think. But it is not a sad-but-typical aspect of our adversarial society that leaders (be they of management, or trade unions, or of political parties) should hold, or at any rate be reasonably interpreted as holding, generalized and prejudiced views about their opposite numbers? And is it not sadder that any such leaders should either hold or express opinions tinged with casual racism? And are not these problems more important than a breach of good manners—I sincerely hope that, if the recording had first been made available to *The Times*, you would have reproduced it faithfully. Yours faithfully,
PHILIP GOLDBERG,
Prospective Liberal Parliamentary candidate for Eton and Slough,
2 Cherrydale,
Hagden Lane,
Westford.

From Lord Taylor
Sir, The sad experience of Sir Richard Dobson should point for everyone in public life a simple and salutary lesson.

Marxism teaches that the end justifies the means, and that, in the smashing up of our society, any and every expedient is justified. Betrayal of one's hosts, abuse of hospitality, character assassination, and the destruction of every sacred and malice are by an extraordinary process of mental gymnastics, regarded as positive virtues, provided they contribute to the un-

Stopping hijacking

From Mr S. Hills

Sir, As a long standing and very frequent air traveller over the past 20 years I have also been addressing my thoughts to possible ways of thwarting the hijacking of aircraft. Sealing the cockpit from the passenger cabin, as proposed by the use of "knock-out" gases I'm afraid are not effective solutions, as there must always be some communication between the cockpit and the main body of the aircraft, thus enabling the hijacker to bargain, and in any case the hijacker can always prepare himself with a gas mask (Airport 1977—a novel by Michael Scheff and David Specter).

There are, however, two possible solutions: (1) The method adopted on airlines in Korea and Taiwan, whereby each crew member and traveller carries a hand baggage at all and is required to empty his pockets and her handbag into a small basket for detailed examination before boarding. (2) The use of each and every traveller is required to sign a declaration before boarding the aircraft that, in the event of a hijacking, they are prepared to accept all the risks involved including the loss of their lives.

Mr Begin's visit

From the Acting General Secretary of the Labour Party

Sir, In your issue of today (October 20) you quote Mr David Watkins, MP, whom you say is chairman of the Labour Party's Middle East Council, as regarding the proposed visit of Mr Begin. There is no such body as the Labour Party's Middle East Council. The Labour Party's Middle East Council is a small pressure group and not an official Labour Party body. The statement by Mr Watkins is not an official Labour Party statement. I am sure Mr Watkins would be the first to confirm these facts. If the matter is left, however, a great many people may be misled. Yours sincerely,
R. UNDERHILL,
Acting General Secretary, the Labour Party,
Transport House,
Smith Square, SW1.
October 20.

Projecting coloured births

From Lord Kaldor, FBA

Sir, There have been numerous accounts in the press of the criticisms which I made in 1970, according to the forthcoming volume of Mr Crossman's diary, of a certain projection of the number of births to coloured parents in 1986. Since these criticisms affect civil servants who are not able to defend themselves, I would like to make it

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Recognition of ordained women

From the Regius Professor of Divinity at Cambridge

Sir, In your correspondence and leading article on the recent celebration of Holy Communion in this country by an American woman priest, there seems to be a tendency to confuse two questions which ought so far as possible to be kept distinct. These are: (a) that of the ordination of women priests in the Church of England, and (b) that of the recognition by the Church of England of priests of other churches of the Anglican Communion who are women.

With regard to the former the Anglican Group for the Ordination of Women to the Historic Ministry of the Church, of which I am chairman, has always insisted that the change of policy which we desire must be brought about by strictly constitutional means after the fullest consideration by the Church as a whole, and this is surely right. In the latter case, such as the ordinations of women by some American bishops before their church had decided to admit women to the priesthood, would be irreconcilable and counter-productive.

In respect of the latter issue, however, the situation is different. Without entering the General Synod or the diocesan synods, our bishops announce changes to the Canon of the Church which would license any Anglican priest from abroad to officiate in this country if she is a woman. This policy seems to be full of inconsistencies, as well as deeply offensive to individuals. It is not clear why the women in question have undeniably been ordained canonically, by rites which the Church of England acknowledges as valid, and yet by the authority of churches with which the Church of England is in full communion.

The only proper ground for a general refusal to license any Anglican women priests as such would appear to be a belief on the bishops' part that they are not in fact priests. But in that case, the Church of England could not possibly maintain, as it claims to do, full communion with the churches that have ordained, or purported to ordain, them. Full communion which does not entail interchangeability of ministries is not full.

There are those, indeed, who hold that these ordinations were validated by the mere fact that the recipients were women; but this position is not open to the bishops collectively, since the General Synod, by majorities in each of the Houses of Bishops, Clergy, and Laity, has already recorded its view that there is no fundamental objection in principle to the ordination of women. It might perhaps be argued that the effect of licensing is to give an overseas priest the same status for the time being as a priest of the Church of England, and that for women this is impossible since in the Church of England no woman can become a

priest. But since these women are in fact priests, of churches with which we claim to have interchangeability of ministries, that argument is scarcely convincing.

In these circumstances, it may well be that the most effective way to persuade the bishops to revise their policy is for clergy and congregations to invite visiting Anglican women priests to celebrate Holy Communion whenever suitable occasions arise. "Disobedience" in this matter is entirely consistent with strict legality and propriety in respect of the ordination of women within the Church of England. A very useful first step might be for those bishops who were aggrieved by the recent incident to test the actual state of the existing law in the courts.

Yours faithfully,
G. W. H. LAMPE,
The Divinity School,
10, John Street,
Cambridge.

From the Vicar of the University Church, Oxford

Sir, It is a mistake to imagine that opponents of the ordination of women in the Anglican Communion can be neatly divided into those who have fundamental objections to women priests and those who are "inopportunist". There are those of us who see no theological reason why the universal Church should not decide to ordain women. Indeed our understanding of Christian practice and thinking leads us to expect development and change. But we equally believe that this issue is too big for such a small section of Christians as the Anglican Communion to decide by itself.

There are certainly things which Anglicans are capable of deciding on. We can do what we believe to be right with our own domestic affairs, and we can decide on the Book of Common Prayer and the role of the Thirty-nine Articles. But there are certain things which we hold in common with other Christians, such as the Creed and the Canon of Scripture. Experience shows that if you tamper unilaterally with these, you cause Christian division.

Because Anglicans have claimed that the ministry lies in this way, of "common consent", any substantial change in its ordering must depend on the decision of the common body. This is just as much a matter of principle and conscience as any which the advocates of women priests may invoke. The full dimensions of the problem facing the Anglican Communion will not be grasped unless the issue is seen for what it is, not principle against principle, but principle against principle. Yours faithfully,
PETER CORNWELL,
13 Welford Road,
Oxford.
October 24.

First class at cut rates

From Mr P. A. Keen

Sir, Margaret Dennes Cohen's letter of October 22 about an elderly man buying, at half price, a first-class ticket to Paddington, assumes that the senior citizen's scheme is a subsidised facility.

This is not so. It is a commercial scheme to stimulate travel by senior citizens and so to increase revenue. It has succeeded magnificently in this respect. One of its attractions to old people is that it is available, for example, on sleeping car services and in first class. Since, therefore, travelling first class benefits the taxpayer rather than the reverse, I hope Mrs Dennes Cohen would not wish to deny senior citizens the right to purchase this additional comfort. Yours faithfully,
PETER KEEN,
Chief Passenger Manager,
British Railways Board,
222 Marylebone Road, NW1.

From Mrs Ronald de Bunsen

Sir, I am a little astonished by Mrs Margaret Dennes Cohen's criticism of the senior citizen who booked a first-class fare from Oxford to Paddington on his concessionary card. (October 22). He adds not a tithe to the expense of taxpayers by so doing so long as first class coaches are retained by British Rail. Indeed, he is adding to the comfort of other passengers by leaving an empty space in the often over-

crowded third-class compartments.

This passenger has more than likely helped to subsidise the railways by buying first-class tickets up to the time of his retirement. It has never before entered my head to travel first class but this certainly gives me ideas. If for a "comparatively small sum" I can have seven-eighths of two coaches to myself, this is the way I shall travel in the future. Yours faithfully,
MARGARET DE BUNSEN,
Burgess Farm,
Upshire,
Walden Abbey,
Essex.

From Miss Elisabeth Jupp

Sir, My mother at 77 is frail, lame and always in some pain. Travelling is an ordeal for her but one of her greatest pleasures. She has, for a year, is to visit her children and grandchildren at the other side of England. This past year she has travelled first class at a cut rate; even so the fare is expensive for her.

First-class carriages are almost never full. While they exist it seems compassionate and helpful of British Rail to let some of the otherwise empty seats be used by elderly people who deeply appreciate tranquillity and comfort. Yours faithfully,
ELISABETH JUPP,
23 Harrow Way,
Harrow.

Battle of Britain

From Air Commodore A. R. D. Macdonell, RAF ret'd

Sir, A book has been published by Len Deighton called *Fighter*, much of which concerns the German Luftwaffe of the Hitler years. It also includes chapters about the Battle of Britain. These contain inaccuracies on the subject of morale, weapons, tactics and comparisons between the German Messerschmitt 109E and the Spitfire I and the Hurricane I. One of the books under its title is written "The True Story of the Battle of Britain".

As Chairman of the Battle of Britain Fighter Association I wish to place on record that we do not endorse this claim. Yours faithfully,
A. R. D. MACDONELL,
70 Burbage Road,
Dulwich, SE24.

Gruesome competition

From Mr George Clare

Sir, Under the heading "Gruesome competition" you published an article in your issue of May 14 by your former Bonn correspondent, Mr Dan van der Vat, in which he expressed his keen distaste for a competition run by *Bild*, the German mass circulation daily of our group, which had the purpose to increase popular awareness of the importance of early recognition of cancer.

Mr van der Vat called *Bild's* competition a "creatively simple giveaway" and concluded his description of what he termed "this extraordinary stunt" with the words: "If this cancer contest does nothing else, it shows that *BILD* is always ready to extend single handed the boundaries of the

journalistically possible".

Here Mr van der Vat was certainly correct for this "stunt" produced donations for the German Cancer Research Fund from *Bild* readers amounting to DM2.5 Mio. *Bild's* Editor, Herr Guenter Prinz, has just been awarded the Federal Republic's Order of Merit First Class for publishing this "creatively simple" competition. The Federal President's award citation says: "This success is without parallel for any newspaper competition and could only be achieved thanks to the great journalistic expertise and care shown by the newspaper's Editor in Chief."

Yours sincerely,
GEORGE CLARE,
Managing Director,
The Axel Springer Publishing Group,
38 Jermyn Street,
St James's, SW1.

An Offenbach revival

From Mr Alexander Faris

Sir, Your Music Critic Stanley Sadie is mistaken in stating that *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* is "Offenbach's one piece that is not an opera bouffe". In 1864 Offenbach's grand opera *Die Rheinmessen* was presented at the Hofoper in Vienna. It was withdrawn after eight performances, but its principal motif, used in the overture, the finale and a central chorus by Elves, was later resurrected by the composer to become the Barcarole in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*.

The MS full score of *Die Rheinmessen* is in the Austrian National Library. Yours faithfully,
ALEXANDER FARIS,
118d Regent's Park Road, NW1.

Trouble at the opera

From Mr Stephen Solley

Sir, On the night that I enjoyed the abridged version of *Don Carlos*, the booing or rather braying of a small section of the audience was overwhelmed by the prolonged and hearty clapping and cheering by the rest of us. I wonder if the protesters would have booed the pit in the same unpleasant way had it contained the band of the underpaid Metropolitan Police?

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN SOLLEY,
Cloniers,
Pump Court, Temple, EC4.

Guest Column

Happy-pills that so often lead to suicide

Dr Colin Brewer points out the dangers of treating unhappiness as a medical problem

One of the most lethal ironies of modern medical practice is that increasing numbers of British men and women are committing suicide with medically prescribed drugs which are supposed to make them feel happy. This is a fairly recent phenomenon because the drugs in question, known as tricyclic antidepressants, were only introduced in 1959. Since then, psychiatrists and GPs have prescribed them liberally, to the tune of 3,500,000 prescriptions in 1965 and 8,000,000 in 1974, representing 2.7 per cent of all National Health Service prescriptions.

Tricyclics are the most poisonous of all the drugs commonly used in psychiatric practice, and the first patient to succeed in killing himself with them did so within a year of their introduction. In 1965, at least 19 successful suicides were attributable to tricyclics, and the number has increased steadily to 167 in 1974. This represents 9 per cent of all suicidal poisonings and excludes a number of deaths classified by coroners as "accidental" or "undetermined whether accidental or suicide", a proportion of which are undoubtedly suicidal.

Of course, it is not surprising that

unhappy people sometimes try to kill themselves, but that very fact should have made doctors cautious about prescribing drugs which could prove fatal even after a relatively small overdose. Barbiturates are still one of the most popular drugs for successful suicide, but a patient is unlikely to die if he reaches hospital alive after a barbiturate overdose. In contrast, tricyclics can kill even if the patient is under constant supervision in an intensive care unit.

Many doctors prescribe these drugs generously in the belief that they nip depression in the bud and stop people getting to a suicidal stage or needing to be admitted to hospital. Unfortunately, there is little evidence that tricyclics have led to any fall in the number of admissions for depression or in the number of suicides. The suicide rate has certainly fallen since 1964, but that is accounted for almost entirely by a reduction in coal-gas poisoning, presumably thanks to natural gas. The incidence of suicide by tablets and by other methods has stayed fairly constant since then while the number of admissions for deliberate overdose (not all of them suicidal) has increased about threefold.

I must stress that I regard tricyclics as useful drugs and prescribe them myself occasionally, but these figures suggest that many of those who attempt or commit suicide are not suffering from conditions which respond to medication. The basic cause of this epidemic of self-poisoning with happy-pills is the medicalization of misery. What used to be called "unhappiness" with the implication that it was part of the human condition, to be dealt with if at all by personal or social change, is now called "depression" with the implication that it is a disease like typhoid or cancer which it is the responsibility of doctors to eliminate. There are certainly some

patients who are profoundly miserable without apparent cause and who can be thought of as "ill", but they are comparatively rare.

This is not the first time that a useful treatment has proved to be a two-edged sword, and we have some precedents to guide us. A total ban is neither necessary nor likely, but doctors must be made more aware of the toxicity of tricyclics and be more discriminating in their prescribing. I see too many patients who have had drugs prescribed without any attempt to find out why they are unhappy, or in the usual vain hope that drugs will somehow enable the patient to feel jolly in the face of a rotten marriage, a frustrating job, or an unfortunate personality.

One solution is to place some small but irritating bureaucratic obstacle in the way of prescribing, such as filling out a form in duplicate. This system was used with success in Australia for certain very expensive drugs. In an age when many repeat prescriptions are written by doctors' receptionists, even a requirement that the GP himself should write it (as is mandatory for some addictive drugs) could lead to more selectivity. Limiting the number of tablets to be dispensed at one time and having them foil-wrapped might reduce the risks of an impulsive overdose, as would entrusting the tablets to someone other than the patient.

In the longer term, prescribing habits will probably shift to safer antidepressants, of which several examples already exist. Looking even farther into the future—perhaps unrealistically far—doctors and patients might question the whole philosophy of "pills for personal problems" which is as dangerous and as ineffective now as when people only had alcohol and opium to help them to ignore what they preferred not to see.

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Good neighbours are what our cities really need

This week the Government announced an extension of its inner city aid programme by bringing more towns and cities into the scheme. Anthony Steen examines the reasons why government action has so far failed to help the industrial urban areas and calls for radical new policies.

The dramatic eclipse from prosperity to poverty of some of our greatest cities did not take place overnight. Yet it took a decade of government reports in the 1960s to bring home the gravity of the situation commonly called "urban deprivation".

Minister-Holland's look at London housing, Ingleby's study of children and young people, Plowden's investigation of primary education, Seaborn's plan to reorganize the social services, focused attention on the need for positive discrimination towards people suffering from multiple deprivation living in overcrowded areas and for whom the welfare state did not exist.

Urban deprivation was seen exclusively as a problem affecting people—old and young, unskilled and unemployed—who were especially vulnerable, rather than the inevitable consequence of external influences affecting those unable to escape from run-down areas.

In 1968 Harold Wilson declared an urban crisis with £20m to cure it. Jim Callaghan, then Home Secretary, described the urban aid programme as arresting the downward spiral which afflicts so many of the depressed and most overcrowded parts of our towns and cities. He said: "There is a deadly quarantine of need and apathy." The idea was to pinch from Peter to pay Paul by switching to special grant category money already in the rate support grant for general allocation. In this way £60m was earmarked from rural to urban areas and with no extra cost to government. Yet to obtain a 75 per cent award local authorities had to find the balance of 25 per cent either from existing budgets or by borrowing. For the poorer authorities this often proved prohibitive. Further, by providing cosmetic finance for community service programmes and building projects, an illusion was created that urban aid would cure city ills—whereas the rot continued and grew.

Nor did the Education Priority Area experiment, concerned with the positive discrimination for children of the "deprived", get to grips with the underlying problem facing those in areas of social malaise. For in spite of the boast that the scheme would improve educational standards and so compensate for a child's deficient background, the programme failed to teach the skills necessary for pupils to find work on leaving. The cost: £175,000. The result: five volumes on library shelves.

Criticism that funds were being squandered

A further £5m was spent by the Home Office on "action research" through the Community Development Project, which detailed small "professional teams" to generate self-help in urban stress areas. What the teams learnt was the amount disadvantaged people could do to help themselves was severely limited. The CDP view that government funds were being squandered on the wrong poverty programmes may explain the official silence surrounding much of the five years of experimental work.

The urban bandwagon rolled on. A newly established Community Programmes Department in 1972 launched neighbourhood schemes for £150,000 a piece—a £10m pilot and cross-fertilising experiment with the Community Development Project. They focused the need for visual improvements to the environment rather than merely jollying up the deprived.

Sir Keith Joseph reawakened interest in the personal deprivation theory by suggesting that deprivation was a kind of hereditary disease transmitted from generation to generation. Half a million pounds then went to academic institutions to carry out a seven-year study programme: report due 1980.

Peter Walker's £3m urban guideline and inner area studies followed next and with them the dawning of a new approach—the total approach. This rationalized the failure of previous urban programmes on the basis that they were too narrow and failed to comprehend wider issues affecting the city as a whole.

The Department of Environment's "quality of life" studies, which were launched contemporaneously, advanced the same thinking but applied the rural approach to the use of leisure.

By now poverty programmes followed poverty programmes thick and fast. The use of weaselwords in deceptive project titles added to the confusion since they bore little rela-

tion to what was actually happening on the ground. There was a proliferation of schemes involving amateur government departments, interlinked, intertwined and cross-financed.

It was time for coordination, said an inter-departmental study. The result: the Urban Deprivation Unit, staffed by a levy of bureaucrats. A ministerial post was created for urban affairs in March, 1974. This disappeared six months later without trace.

Local authority management now became the new thrust through Comprehensive Community Programmes which superseded the total approach. These were based on the belief that urban deprivation still lingered in the 50 or so areas suffering from it. So the programme abandoned social action and favoured administrative juggling with priorities.

To test the practicability of this approach £4m worth of trial runs were to be set up. Now it seems the trial runs are themselves to have a trial run—in Gateshead!

Because of duplicity and general confusion, no-one knows the real cost of the poverty programmes. Some say about £10m annually since 1968. What we do know is that the government's fight against urban deprivation, like the emperor's new clothes, has been shown to be little more than empty rhetoric: for the number of unemployed has risen dramatically in nearly every city; homelessness has doubled; a million people languish on local authority waiting lists; Housing Action Areas are a contradiction in terms, for the £195,200,000 allocated to them in 1973-74 was cut back to £85,900,000 in 1975-76, and with a pound worth less. Regional grants and development area status have not helped the exodus of people from the inner cities.

Some say the most poverty programmes have done is to employ a new breed—professionals of deprivation—to conduct surveys and produce reports which tell us little that we did not already know.

The dearth of poverty initiatives in the past two years led to the belief that the government was preparing to launch a radical new approach. Hopes were dashed, however, when Peter Shore launched out the all too familiar phrases in his speech at Bristol: "a strategy for revitalization", "urgency for the inner cities", "better integration of services". But no new money to do it with, just shuffling around what was already earmarked "public expenditure".

In spite of 10 years of poverty programmes, it is clear the Government has not learnt very much, for it is now off on yet another wild goose chase. This time the inner city is the target, with local authorities harnessed to empty partnership agreements while urban malaise, urban deprivation, inner city squalor—call it what you will—continues and grows worse.

"If our cities fail, so to a large extent does our society," So said Peter Shore in a speech last year noted for its purple phrases in which he urged everyone in the land to tackle the urban crisis. Yet the recent White Paper Policy for the Inner City fails to build on the experience of the poverty programmes.

For the talk how to redirecting priorities, "renewed action" and new partnership arrangements with local authorities—though what this all means is anyone's guess.

The overall impression is that the Government lacks the political will to find a solution to the problems of our cities. For everyone knows that the recipe for prosperous towns is a flourishing industrial sector and full employment. In which case, why has not the government seen to it that the tens of thousands of acres of vacant and derelict land which spread outwards from the centre of our cities are reclaimed for industrial development? Where are the long term plans for tackling the damage caused by the stop-go industrial government? Why still no commitment to shattered communities displaced by whole sale demolition of inner city neighbourhoods who were lured to vast soulless council estates on the periphery of our great towns?

Profits were diverted to building on green sites

The problems go back a century or more—the result of a process by which factories were built on green field sites then on the edges of our towns where land was plentiful and cheap and housed the local workforce.

Yet as industry prospered, profits tended to be diverted for the building of new factories on other green field sites. With insufficient investment the older industries declined. Local job opportunities suffered. Migration left the older and unskilled behind. Many firms closed leaving vacant sites. These were not filled for they were expensive

to buy, and there was a shortage of skilled labour in city centres. It was cheaper and quicker for new firms to start afresh farther out.

Today the cities' topography vividly illustrates the effects of the recurrent cycles of growth and decline. Birmingham now has 1,100 acres derelict within the city; Liverpool some 2,000, and other big cities show similar patterns. Yet much of it remains locked up at inflated prices in the hands of nationalized industries, public bodies and local authorities (Liverpool City Council owns 60 per cent of the city's inner area). Not only does this deter new investment, but it represents a direct cost to the local authority in loan charges on the land and revenue foregone in the absence of development.

The Government must compel recalcitrant public organizations to release their holdings at a price which will attract indigenous business. The right approach would be to halt any further thrust outwards into the green belt. The local authorities must be provided with the necessary resources and resolve to launch such a policy. The Government has already allocated £100m for construction work for the cities but this is no gift—just borrowing powers for local authorities to incur greater debts in the future. Let us hope that this will be earmarked for infrastructure grants for derelict and under-used land.

It is not just derelict land we should go to town about, but also the faceless battalions of bureaucrats who gum up the works on planning applications and prevent the utilization of empty warehouses and use of existing premises through unnecessary delays and rigid adherence to administrative procedures.

Bureaucracy may well be the root cause of the failure of regional policy to reduce differences between the regions. Surely with all the regional machinery, industrial development certificates, regional planning boards, intermediate areas and regional development grants our cities should have been rejuvenated.

Regional Aid could be put to better use

Yet regional policy has worked against the inner areas by sucking out industry to the periphery and beyond to the new towns—as on Merseyside, where 80,000 jobs were lost in the inner city to be replaced by 100,000 on the edge. Furthermore, the cost of £13,300 to create each job in a special development area would suggest that regional aid could be put to better use.

If we revitalize the cities where are we going to put the people who come to work there? Massive slum clearance programmes have stripped the inner cities of housing stock. The older properties which remain do not attract mortgage finance. Private purchases have been hit by the dramatic drop in local authority mortgages (from £85m in 1975 to £38m in 1976). Private lettings have dried up because of the provisions of the Rent Act. But worst of all is the catastrophic reduction in improvement grants in Housing Action and general improvement areas, down from 15,799 in 1974 to 5,970 in 1976.

"We must pension off the bulldozer and replace the general policies of comprehensive redevelopment by a policy of gradual renewal and rehabilitation" (Peter Shore, Housing Conference, 1976). This is surely where money should be spent. Why isn't it?

Hand in hand with industrial revival and housing improvement must go the rebuilding of a caring community, probably the most delicate and difficult of all tasks.

For the demolition of the inner area laid waste not just houses but also communities where relationships were important and people cared for one another. Here the ailments of our modern age—loneliness and mental ill health—were far less prominent.

The first priority, therefore, is to try to rekindle the neighbourhood spirit in the large impersonal council estates round the cities by the creation of smaller units of organization, where people can once again start to relate to each other. Furthermore, in a number of areas the redistribution of responsibility and resources away from the town hall official to the people themselves has worked well and suggests a more widespread application. Self-help and participation are worn terms but the principle behind them are still important and have considerable potential.

The future of our country is bound up with the restoration of our communities, the return of prosperity to the cities. Those who ignore this do so at their peril.

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The author is Conservative MP for Liverpool, Wavertree.



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\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

John Foord

chartered surveyors[illegible]

Nestlé assurance on price stability of instant coffee until late spring

By Patricia Tisdall

Nestlé, one of the biggest instant coffee producers, has promised that there will be no further increase in its prices until at least late spring, 1978, as well as reducing the price of its instant coffee to 10p a jar instead of 15p a jar in June.

Other suppliers are expected to follow the price curb which will give the longest period without a price rise that instant coffee has experienced since November, 1975.

The company confirmed yesterday that new prices due to take effect at the end of the month are 20p a jar less than those originally planned. The new wholesale rates will take the retail price to around 14p a jar instead of 15p to 16p.

The reduction has been caused by intense pressure from multiple retailers led by Tesco who refused to buy at the higher prices of big stores like Tesco which carried notices

explaining the situation to customers either boycotted brands at the new prices or bought in only in very small quantities.

Miss Daisy Hyams, director in charge of buying at Tesco, said last night that she was delighted with the reduction. She agreed that Nestlé's might be losing money on stocks produced from costly raw coffee but that Tesco's did not think they could charge their customers so much extra.

Behind the store groups' actions is a sharp drop in consumer consumption of instant coffee in response to earlier price rises. The latest national food survey produced by the Ministry of Agriculture shows that in June households were buying only 0.33 oz of instant coffee per person per week compared with 0.46 oz during the same quarter a year ago.

This is a decrease of more than 28 per cent. Compared with 1975 the decrease is

volume consumed is over 35 per cent.

Part of the drop is accounted for by heavy stockpiling by consumers in advance of price rises. But since June further substantial falls, particularly of the more expensive varieties, have taken place.

To stem the tide Brooke Bond Oxo and then Nestlé brought out cheaper varieties blended with chicory or bran. Latest reports are that both C Fee Time, the Brooke Bond product, and Elevesen, which is made by Nestlé, are selling "extremely well".

Raw coffee prices have dropped steeply during the past few months but it takes six to eight months before the raw material prices are reflected in those charged by the instant coffee manufacturers.

Nestlé say that they have at least four months supply made from the raw materials bought at the peak rate which touched £4,000 per ton in March.

Working group review of long-term strategy for energy industries

By Roger Violette
Energy Correspondent

Measures to help nationalised industries and the Department of Energy in formulating policy have been agreed by the Working Group on Energy Strategy, which draws its members from the Government and the state sector.

The changes follow a review by the group of the variety of corporate planning systems, procedures and timetables used by the state energy industries, and the difficulties of attempting to construct a picture for the sector as a whole and of making comparisons between available fuels.

According to the report, the group's discussions have been influenced by the need for greater emphasis on long-term strategy and the inter-relationship between fuels.

The members of the group have stressed the importance of maintaining a flexible approach to strategy "given that the uncertainties are too big and the penalties of failure too great for any one blueprint for the energy sector to survive the realities of the complex and developing situation".

The members, from the nationalised gas, electricity, oil and nuclear corporations with the Department of Energy and the Treasury, also agreed the adoption of a common minimum long-term planning horizon of 20 years; and to develop

strategies, policies and plans on at least one common scenario for the future as well as to adopt one set of economic assumptions in common.

The group also agreed that the Department should prepare annually a policy review based on a detailed assessment of demand and supply balances for the United Kingdom, including imports and exports from the medium-term and beyond.

It would also examine the implications of certain policy and investment decisions for the industries, and assist in marketing (including pricing) and investment decisions.

The review would draw heavily on the long-term scenarios on the Department's energy forecasts, and on the strategic thinking and development plans of the industries.

The group also proposed that the Department should issue a planning letter to each industry as early as possible in the annual planning cycle. This would record the Secretary of State's response to critical matters in corporate plans submitted to the industry, and the minister's energy policy guidelines for the development of the industry.

The letter would also note any strategic matters which the Department and the industry should examine later in the year and which should be featured in the next corporate plan.

Warnings over Linwood dispute by union and MPs

By R. W. Shakespeare

A dispute over four men which has closed the Chrysler plant at Linwood, Renfrewshire, making 7,000 workers idle and causing production losses of £100,000 a day, has sparked an attack on the management from a shopfloor leader yesterday.

It also provoked a warning from a group of influential Scottish Conservative MPs that the shutdown could have serious consequences not only for Chrysler itself but for the wider economy.

Mr John Currey, senior shop steward at the Linwood plant, accused the company of "lashing out blindly" when it suspended four inspectors last week after they had refused to carry out an inspection to work at a different position some 30 yards along the assembly line from their normal workplace.

The company claims this move was covered by a "flex-

ibility" agreement with the unions, but the inspectors protested that it had not been negotiated through the proper channels.

Subsequently 40 other inspectors walked out and Chrysler shut down production of the new Sunbeam and Avenger cars and laid off 7,000 workers.

Moves came yesterday from Scottish union officials to try to get national union leaders to intervene in the dispute.

Vauxhall pay vote: Today, the 23,000 shopfloor workers in Vauxhall plants at Luton, Dunstable and Ellesmere Port will be voting on new pay proposals that offer a 10 per cent across-the-board increase plus a productivity deal which the company claims could be worth up to £7 a week more.

The workforce at British Leyland votes today on the pay and bargaining reforms proposed by the management. At Rover's Solihull factory the joint shop stewards' committee yesterday urged the 8,000 shopfloor men to reject the deal.

Public sector as % of GDP

Year	Public sector	Private sector
1968	21.5	78.5
1976	29.7	70.3
Source	CSO Financial Statistics Table 8.15	

During the current financial year the local authorities, although themselves under stringent financial pressures, will increase their pension funds by over £500m. Since these authorities are blessed with a reputation for their pension funds are most unlikely ever to be really needed, and their maintenance must constitute a charge on the public of very questionable value. The Layfield Committee had this matter brought to their notice, although expressing no view on it, they urged that further consideration be given to the subject (paragraph 12, page 93) — but no action seems yet to have been taken on it.

In their estimates Wood Mackenzie assume an annual inflation rate of 10 per cent. A feature of such an inflationary rate is that the more the pension funds grow, the larger are the deficiencies they generate and the heavier are the burdens imposed upon the suffering citizenry.

The Post Office pension fund had a deficit of £777 million in 1969 and by 1972 this had risen to £1,082 million or £20 per head for every man, woman and child in the United Kingdom. Over the following four years the Corporation made large deficiency payments to the fund, putting its own finances under strain in the process. By 1976, however, the pension fund's deficit had risen to £1,920 million or some £35 per head of the population.

For this reason the Carter Committee on the Post Office recommended a change from full to partial funding of the Corporation's pension liabilities, and cogently argued the case in favour of that policy. To date, however, this important proposal has gone largely unnoticed in the press. This is unfortunate, and it is to be hoped that Wood Mackenzie's latest figures will encourage financial journalists and others to look again at Chapter 13 of the Carter Committee's report, and also at the memorandum on the technical accounting aspects of that chapter which issued in amplification of their proposal.

Yours faithfully,
RAYMOND NOTTAGE,
Director-General
Royal Institute of Public Administration,
Hamilton House,
Mabledon Place,
London WC1E 9ED.

German foreign trade surplus of £910m

West Germany's foreign trade surplus rose to DM3,560m (about £910m) in September from DM2,520m in August, and compared with an upward revised DM4,680m in September, 1976, the Federal Statistics Office announced in Wiesbaden.

September's DM3,560m surplus was the second largest this year, after March's DM4,200m. Last month's exports rose to DM23,200m from DM20,920m in August, and compared with DM23,090m in September last year. Imports rose to DM19,400m in September from DM18,420m in September, 1976.

Immobiliare seeks funds for salaries

Generale Immobiliare Sogena SpA is seeking banking finance for its October salary payments, pending a long-awaited decision from the Italian Government on plans for its financial rescue, according to banking sources in Rome.

On June 30 the company had banking debts of 208,500m lire (about £133.4m) according to figures supplied to the Bourse Commission.

Green Shield

Mr Tom McAuliffe, joint managing director of Argos Distributors, and not his managing director Mr Joe Phillips, has been appointed chief executive and joint managing director of Green Shield Stamps. Mr Phillips continues in his present appointment with Argos.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Profit sharing would encourage welfare state mentality

From Mr B. A. Cole

Sir, "Profit sharing" has become a slogan which the Conservative and Liberal Parties have espoused, though there is little in common between the two parties' policies. In neither case is there any sound basis for the legislation they propose.

Both parties argue the case for wider distribution of wealth, and (by implication) that shareholders should, give some of their assets and/or income to employees. The approaches of the two parties are different. The Conservatives' "Right Approach" argues for tax incentives for employee shares, which is not really profit sharing. Liberal Enterprise puts forward a less specific policy, in effect that any kind of profit sharing may be acceptable, but that some form of it should be imposed on companies because it is only when workers should have a share in profits.

The Liberal argument is the easier to dismiss briefly. In the past 25 years (and possibly longer), shareholders' returns have fallen dramatically behind employees' incomes — without any legal coercion or profit sharing the workforce is receiving progressively more of the wealth created by companies than the shareholders.

In real terms, income from employment rose by 58 per cent between 1950 and 1975, while ordinary dividends fell by 14 per cent. In money terms, between 1950 and 1975, profits increased by 41 times (or 31 times if, more correctly, behind employees' incomes — without any legal coercion or profit sharing the workforce is receiving progressively more of the wealth created by companies than the shareholders).

There are many positive arguments against legislation which would force profit sharing on companies. Shareholders have in recent years had a raw deal, compared with employees, and there is no case for Government pressure on them to reduce further their rewards in favour of employees. Indeed in macro-economic terms the proposal must be inflationary, since at

least some employees will cash their shares as soon as possible and spend the proceeds — and the shares are intended to be in addition to all present income of the employee.

As well as being inflationary, the plan is socially divisive and discriminatory. There is no reason to give a tax concession to those who happen to work in profitable private industry and to no one else.

Any individual worker in a nationalised industry, the Civil Service or an unprofitable company may be working as hard and as productively as another individual in private industry — or both may be pushed by further bedding and overmanning from the need to do any work.

A further argument is that effort and thrift would be further discouraged, in favour of the welfare state mentality. If employees were made shareholders by being given shares in addition to their present level of income, which must be assumed to be a full and fair reward for their labour, they are surely reinforced in the all too prevalent belief that saving is not worth while.

It is also for any political party to appeal to the normal desire of ordinary men for greater affluence, and a cosy slogan like "profit sharing" implies that everyone has a right to share in the wealth of the country. The reality of our mixed economy does not support the principle or the methods proposed, and votes obtained by such a policy will be dearly bought.

Yours faithfully,
B. A. COLE,
Drake Wood,
Devonshire Avenue,
Amersham, Bucks.
October 20.

Pension funds and 'Savings Mountain'

From the Director-General, Royal Institute of Public Administration

Sir, Stockbrokers Wood Mackenzie assume an annual inflation rate of 10 per cent. A feature of such an inflationary rate is that the more the pension funds grow, the larger are the deficiencies they generate and the heavier are the burdens imposed upon the suffering citizenry.

The Post Office pension fund had a deficit of £777 million in 1969 and by 1972 this had risen to £1,082 million or £20 per head for every man, woman and child in the United Kingdom. Over the following four years the Corporation made large deficiency payments to the fund, putting its own finances under strain in the process. By 1976, however, the pension fund's deficit had risen to £1,920 million or some £35 per head of the population.

For this reason the Carter Committee on the Post Office recommended a change from full to partial funding of the Corporation's pension liabilities, and cogently argued the case in favour of that policy. To date, however, this important proposal has gone largely unnoticed in the press. This is unfortunate, and it is to be hoped that Wood Mackenzie's latest figures will encourage financial journalists and others to look again at Chapter 13 of the Carter Committee's report, and also at the memorandum on the technical accounting aspects of that chapter which issued in amplification of their proposal.

Yours faithfully,
RAYMOND NOTTAGE,
Director-General
Royal Institute of Public Administration,
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Mabledon Place,
London WC1E 9ED.

Longer courses needed in engineering design

From Professor A. W. J. Chisholm

Sir, Mr Littlewood draws attention (October 19) to the excellent teaching of engineering design in the German technical universities and criticises British universities for their relative weakness in this work. There are many British university professors of engineering who share his concern, being well aware of the relationships between university design teaching, the quality of product design and manufacturing performance.

Mr Littlewood must know, however, that the excellent work in Germany (which is of very long standing) is carried out mainly in the fourth and fifth years of their courses. British university engineering courses are the equivalent of only three academic years in duration. Even within these shorter courses, some good design teaching has been developed in Britain, especially in the last 10 or 20 years. There is, however, a limit to what can be done, bearing in mind the importance of laying down in the earlier years of the course the scientific and tech-

nological foundations which are essential for good design work. The Engineering Professors' Conference and its Committee, as well as individual universities, are actively working to further proposals for meeting these needs. Indeed, the CPEP has already informed the Government and the University Grants Committee that the Conference considers that at least a proportion of university courses of engineering should be lengthened to four years in order to enable a more adequate and thorough treatment to be given to advanced aspects of engineering practice such as design, in the final years of the course. The Conference has pointed out that, in several circumstances, such a change would probably require some changes in the curriculum for the preceding years.

Yours faithfully,
A. W. J. CHISHOLM,
Chairman, Committee of Engineering Professors' Conference,
2 Little Smith Street,
London SW1P 3DL.

G. T. Japan Investment Trust

Extracts from the Annual Report 1977
Chairman: Mr. W. T. J. Griffin

* The year to 30th June, 1977, saw a more modest increase in net asset value per share of your company than the previous year. The increase of 11.5% may be measured against an advance of 5.2% in the Tokyo Stock Exchange Index, but the outcome was also affected by a fall, from 451 to 411, in the investment currency premium, and a change in currency rate from 322 to 440.5 yen to the £ sterling.

* Since the end of the financial year, your company has issued £2,000,000 8½% Convertible Loan Stock 1987, the major reason for this issue was your Directors wish to dilute the effect of the investment currency premium on your company affairs. Already during the financial year in furtherance of the Board's policy, substantial sales of stocks held over the premium had been made, at some cost due to the 25% surrender of currency premium. The fall in the currency premium to 41.75% at 30th June to its present level of 28% has justified these moves.

In accordance with the statement in the prospectus for the issue of Convertible Unsecured Loan Stock, total dividends have been maintained at 4%.

* Demand in the Japanese domestic economy remains weak & the Japanese Government's forecast of real growth of GNP likely to be achieved more because of the strength of export than because of an increase in personal consumption. For the longer term, your Directors remain as confident as ever the prospect for the Japanese economy whose strength & flexibility are unique among those of major nations.

Copies of the Annual Report can be obtained from:
G. T. Management Ltd., Park House
(1st Floor), 16 Finsbury Circus,
London EC2M 7DD.

Healey 'mini-Budgets' like conjuror's patter

By David Blake
Economics Correspondent

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Conservative Shadow Chancellor, yesterday launched a pre-emptive strike against the various Budget measures to be announced today by Mr Healey.

"Sir Geoffrey said at a luncheon of the London Chamber of Commerce that anyone who harboured any expectations of the latest Government package should measure it against what would need to be done to get back to the position which Mr Healey inherited.

For Mr Healey to do this, he said, he would need to reduce unemployment by almost one million, raise industrial production by 4 per cent, cut the standard rate of income tax to 30p in the pound and raise allowances to reduce the overall burden of income tax by £5,000m.

"Mr Healey's never-ending stream of mini-Budgets seem to be designed, like the patter of the conjuror, to divert attention from reality," said Sir Geoffrey, who predicted that

Chamber's tax plea for small firms

Mr Healey would fail to restore the position of the real economy.

Sir Geoffrey said that a new Conservative administration would reduce income tax by something of the order which he considered necessary to get back to taxation levels under the last Conservative Government, but he left open the question of whether this would be done immediately or "with all due deliberate speed".

He said there should be a switch from direct to indirect taxation, with an increase in value-added tax to pay for cuts in income tax. He also argued for savings on public spending by cutting out waste, "no more socialism and reduction in government support for housing."

He also pointed out that because of the inflation since January the Chancellor would already be committed to giving tax cuts of £740m in his next Budget under the "inflation" clause unless he obtained special exemption.

Warnings over Linwood dispute by union and MPs

By R. W. Shakespeare

A dispute over four men which has closed the Chrysler plant at Linwood, Renfrewshire, making 7,000 workers idle and causing production losses of £100,000 a day, has sparked an attack on the management from a shopfloor leader yesterday.

It also provoked a warning from a group of influential Scottish Conservative MPs that the shutdown could have serious consequences not only for Chrysler itself but for the wider economy.

Mr John Currey, senior shop steward at the Linwood plant, accused the company of "lashing out blindly" when it suspended four inspectors last week after they had refused to carry out an inspection to work at a different position some 30 yards along the assembly line from their normal workplace.

The company claims this move was covered by a "flex-

Euromarket borrowing on decline

From Frank Vogel
Washington, October 25

Industrial countries have reduced their Euromarket borrowing activity. As a result the total volume of new Euromarket loans in the third quarter of this year was substantially below the second quarter's level and considerably less than the quarterly average for the previous year, according to the International Monetary Fund.

Computer starting pay over limit

By Mark Jackson
Times Employment Supplement

Starting pay for computer staff has risen well above the limit of the pay code, according to a survey carried out by one of Britain's leading data processing organizations.

The Control Data Institute, which provides computer courses for the government retraining scheme, has recorded the quarterly average salaries for its newly qualified engineers, programmers and engineers since the start of 1975.

For programmers, the average annual salary rose from £1,949 in the first quarter of 1975 to £2,897 in the third quarter of this year. Engineers' salaries went up from £1,979

How state will pay for takeovers

Nationalization values of unquoted companies being acquired under the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Act will be "closely analogous to the fixing of a flotation price" of the companies, Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, has told Mr Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange.

Mr Varley, in a letter, stated that since most of the companies being nationalized were not listed on the Stock Exchange, the compensation would take account of relevant factors as if they had been listed during the reference period.

Only where a company had represented a substantial part of a listed company would the SE quotation of the parent be taken into account, since the parent's market price "must be substantially determined by the market's view of the subsidiary".

Mr Goodison had written to Mr Varley stating that there was a "serious misconception concerning the method of valuing, for compensation, unquoted companies."

Yesterday Mr Goodison said that he hoped Mr Varley's letter would provide parent companies with a handle for further competent discussions with the Department.

Institute of Marketing award for Mothercare

National marketing awards of the Institute of Marketing for 1977 were presented yesterday to three companies: Mothercare, Bata Homes & Gardens, and Aero-Print.

The awards are made for outstanding achievement in marketing. Mothercare, which has grown in 15 years from a turnover of £500,000 a year to £80m, received the award for comprehensive marketing strategy.

In category 2, for companies of between £2m and £10m turnover, Bata Homes and Gardens of Paddock Wood, Kent, is rewarded for new marketing strategy which has led to great increase in their share of the market for greenhouses.

Mackie hopes for new textile plant deal with Hanoi

A multi-million pound textile machinery order from Vietnam, which the firm has been almost completed, is being pursued by James Mackie & Sons, the Belfast company to whom the Government denied export credit guarantees last month as a punishment for breaching the 10 per cent pay policy guidelines.

Mackie's sales efforts have been unaffected by the Government's sanction.

J. C. Gilbert Ltd, the London merchants, were the company's partners in the first Vietnam deal for a £2.2m order for 40 miles from Hanoi. A spokesman said yesterday that Gilberts were hopeful of a speedy conclusion to negotiations on a second contract.

The first deal with Vietnam was not affected by the Government's action at all, the financial details had all been settled last year, and the Export Credits Guarantee Department could not withdraw. But we are after continuity of business with Hanoi and it is a potential second and larger deal to which the Government's sanction applies.

It is understood, however, that the partners' hopes have been buoyed by their on-site performance under the first contract both in delivering machinery and Taylor Woodrow's erection of the mill, and by the Hanoi government's sympathetic acceptance of Mackie's credit insurance difficulties.

Unconfirmed reports suggest that Mackie have been able to arrange credit guarantees on the City of London market.

UK tenders for £10m cable ship

British shipyards are to be invited next month to submit tenders for a £10m cable ship, which the state-owned Cable & Wireless group plans to bring into service towards the end of 1979.

C & W announced yesterday that it was inviting bids, and the company expected to place a firm order in the early part of next year. No final decisions have yet been taken on whether tenders from overseas will be invited.

C & W's cable ship contract will certainly attract a subsidy from the intervention fund created earlier this year to narrow the gap between British and foreign ship prices.

Competition for the contract is expected to be narrowed down to Cammell Laird on Merseyside and the Swan Hunter Group on the Tyne.

EEC unemployment tops six million

Unemployment in the European Economic Community rose to 6,041,000 in September from 5,889,000 in August, reaching a new high of 2.4 per cent in a month according to Eurostat, the EEC Statistics Office.

The August unemployment figure was revised by Eurostat from 5,889,000, which in fact represented the previous record high as it exceeded last January's level of 5,876,000.

Immobiliare seeks funds for salaries

Generale Immobiliare Sogena SpA is seeking banking finance for its October salary payments, pending a long-awaited decision from the Italian Government on plans for its financial rescue, according to banking sources in Rome.

On June 30 the company had banking debts of 208,500m lire (about £133.4m) according to figures supplied to the Bourse Commission.

Green Shield

Mr Tom McAuliffe, joint managing director of Argos Distributors, and not his managing director Mr Joe Phillips, has been appointed chief executive and joint managing director of Green Shield Stamps. Mr Phillips continues in his present appointment with Argos.

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RICARDO CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Pre-tax Profits up 48% Continued expansion

Points from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. D. Downs, B.Sc., C.Eng., F.I.Mech.E.

The increase in profitability of the company is a reflection of the fact that all departments, including G. Cussons Ltd., are working at near full capacity, and is a source of great satisfaction. It brings our return on capital employed more in line with the figures we were achieving nearly ten years ago.

Consulting. During the year, the number of companies retaining us as consultants has continued to increase. The new clients come from both the engine and the component industries and are well spread geographically in our traditional work areas of Western Europe, the United States and Japan. We are already active in some Eastern European countries, notably Poland, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia.

Contract Work. New engine design, both diesel and petrol, the latter including a substantial involvement in the motor cycle field, remains a most

important part of our activities. Energy conservation is involving us in a number of design and development projects for the conversion of engines from petrol to diesel operation.

Ricardo Research. Your company ploughs back about 10% of its turnover into internally-funded research, the results of which are used in the design and development work we do for our clients as well as in our consulting activities generally.

Capital. The result of building programmes in recent years has been materially to increase the amount of capital employed on fixed assets. In recognition of this the board recommend the capitalization of £344,025 of the company's reserves by the issue of 3 new fully paid ordinary shares for every 2 ordinary shares already held.

G. Cussons Ltd. This company has also had a good year. Our increased sales activity in the Middle East has borne fruit with substantial orders for educational equipment, notably from the University of Kuwait, valued at over £500,000, and from the King Abdul Aziz University, Jeddah.

Outlook. I am sure that we can look forward to the coming year with confidence.

FIVE YEAR RECORD	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973
CAPITAL EMPLOYED	£1,904	£1,618	£1,391	£1,186	£1,022
Profit before Tax	£41	£43	£40	£31	£24
Profit after Tax	£30	£24	£19	£13	£10
Ordinary Dividends	£5.3p	£5.8p	£5.3p	£4.9p	£4.9p

RICARDO & CO., ENGINEERS (1927) LIMITED, BRIDGE WORKS, SHOREHAM-BY-SEA, SUSSEX

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Too little, too late from the accountants

As a precursor of the Cross report on the disciplinary proceedings of the accountancy profession, yesterday's comments by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales come as a damp squib. The institute has had its general statement on DoT reports ready for some six months, but waited until it had some specific comments before publishing.

These comments on accountants involved in criticisms of Bernard Russell Ltd and John Willment (Automobiles), are so anodyne as to make their publication hardly worth while; the only concrete proposal to come out of the whole exercise is that non-executive directors and company secretaries should resign, making public the reasons for their resignation, when irregular practices continue in a company despite their efforts to change its course.

A laudable sentiment no doubt. But nothing that was said yesterday will lead the public to believe that justice is being done by the accountancy profession. That is the province of the institute's disciplinary committee, which to date has been reluctant to publish its findings in a way that the public can clearly see where members have erred.

And recommendations over the future conduct of the disciplinary committee must wait for publication of the Cross report, which is expected in the second week of November. Every indication is that it will suggest that the accountancy bodies should bring out censure statements in the kind of detail which has been used by the Take-over Panel and recently by The Stock Exchange in the SUITS affair.

Associated Television After the US deal

ATV's rights issue comes six weeks after an increase in authorised capital was approved at the annual meeting. There Lord Grade told shareholders there were no immediate plans to issue new capital so ATV could be seen to be acting in almost unseemly haste in asking shareholders to stump up £9.1m.

The timing, however, is understandable since ATV faces significant balance sheet deterioration as a result of the decision to buy out its American partners in its associated film financing company, AGF. This brings AGF's debts into ATV's balance sheet at the year end so group borrowings could increase from £15m to as much as £26m compared against shareholders' funds of some £40m.

It also allows ATV the opportunity to pre-empt what at first glance will be gloomy interim figures with a confident full-year forecast of profits in excess of £13m against last year's £11.1m. Interim profits will be below last year's £5.2m because of exceptional television programme costs brought about by different phasing of the group's national network contributions lumping more of the expenditure into the first half.



Lord Grade, chairman of ATV.

The issue is to non-voters so it precludes purchases by some leading institutions who would such shares on principle. And once again it raises interesting questions about chaotic voting structures, although they are notional in the case of television companies under Independent Broadcasting authority rules. One can see why control of a television contractor should be strictly safeguarded, though a company like ATV

now has wide and expanding interests outside television. Notably the success of major feature films like *Jesus of Nazareth* and the *Return of the Pink Panther* not to mention the *Muppets* are providing considerable buoyancy to the film-making division.

At 109p the shares are on an ex-rights p/e ratio of just over 8, but the promised fifth increase in the dividend takes the prospective yield to almost 9 1/2 per cent ex-rights, and it is income of course that provides the main attraction in ATV shares—hence the emergence of M & G as the largest single shareholder with around 15 per cent of the capital following the Reed International disposal.

Financial markets are waiting with bated breath to hear what Mr Healey has to say about sterling and the money supply today. In the week of the autumn package, however, money markets appear to have been taking the view that the downward trend in short-term interest rates may well have come to an end.

Even ahead of last week's safety first action by the Bank of England in the discount market, there was little indication that the market felt much incentive to drive Treasury Bill rates any lower. And that being the case, the yield curve out to one year has been resuming a more normal shape with rates beyond three months tending to firm. Indeed, over the past 10 days or so, most 12 month rates have hardened by as much as half a point—local authorities lagging slightly behind with the rates on this week's batch of bearing bonds up just under 1/2 per cent to 6 1/2 per cent.

So far, it has largely been a case of lenders taking a slightly more wary line rather than borrowers moving fast to stock up while money is cheap. If and when the banks get the first sniff that lending may be on the move again in a big way, however, rates could move fairly sharply. First, however, Mr Healey and the foreign exchange markets must have their day.

Small business

Don't expect miracles

There cannot now be much doubt that the political handwagon in favour of improving the lot of small businesses is rolling with such momentum as to make tax concessions a near certainty. The only question is whether the Chancellor will make his move today or whether he will content himself with a minor gesture as a prelude to something more full-blooded after Mr Harold Lever's report next month. Either way it seems that Sir Harold Wilson's Committee, which has acted as a catalyst in turning the "plight" of small companies into a political issue, will be preempted in anything it may ultimately have to say.

Among those most closely involved in the financing of small companies, however, there is some puzzlement over why the issue has assumed the proportions it has. Few, if any, submissions to Wilson have contended there is a serious shortage of finance for small companies, and the Governor of the Bank of England made some timely comments yesterday by way of putting the matter into perspective. He noted that the evidence to Wilson did not so much seek particular government intervention to solve the problems of small businesses as the creation of a generally more favourable environment. The point is as apposite for big companies as it is for small.

This is not to say that no specific measures are needed to help small companies. It is clear that the tax burden on them is unduly severe and does discourage growth. But helpful though changes in, say, capital transfer tax and marginal income tax rates may be, they are not the whole answer. For that one must look to a fundamental shift in the business climate so that it holds out the prospect of a continuing stable real rate of return on investment.

Any increase in capital investment must therefore be slow. However much the Chancellor gives back to small entrepreneurs it will take years to reverse the steady erosion in confidence of the past two decades. Even then, as the governor remarked, it is doubtful whether the individual could ever again recover the share of national resources he once had.

There are now 430,000 men and 120,000 women who have been on the unemployment register in Great Britain for over six months.

Caroline Atkinson analyses the growth in the number of long-term jobless



A doleful life

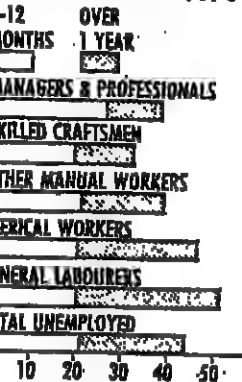
As the dole queues have swelled to unprecedented postwar levels this year most public sympathy and government attention has been directed at the young, especially school leavers, among the jobless.

But the problems of the growing numbers of the long-term unemployed are at least as serious and often more so. In the days of full, or at least fuller, employment nearly all of the long-term unemployed were in some sense "unemployable", and not really in the job market.

These include the disabled jobless, and unemployed old people who draw unemployment benefit until qualifying for pension, but without much hope of getting work. At present levels of unemployment this is no longer the case.

There are now 430,000 men and 120,000 women who have been on the unemployment register in Great Britain for over six months. Of those, a quarter of a million men have been jobless for over a year.

DURATION OF MALE UNEMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION-1976



At the latest count in July, 26.5 per cent of men who had been out of work for longer than a year were aged between 25 and 40 years. The proportion in the boom years of 1973 and 1974 was nearer 15 per cent.

The official definition of long-term unemployment is being registered without work for a year or more. There is a case for drawing a line at six months because it is six months of unemployment that earnings related supplement ceases.

This pushes up quite dramatically the number of men between 25 and 40 who are counted as part of the long-term unemployed. Nearly half of the 175,000 who had been without work for between six months and a year in July were in this age group.

Long-term unemployment is not just a male phenomenon. In July of this year 17 per cent of those registered out of work for more than a year were women, compared to less than 10 per cent in 1974. Women now account for over a quarter of those who have been on the dole queue for between six months and a year.

However, the man is still usually the main breadwinner in the family and it is when he is out of work for a long time that the whole family suffers the most.

The financial blow of unem-

ployment does not hit immediately. For the first six months earnings related supplement bolsters the income of those—roughly between a quarter and a fifth of the unemployed—who claim it. If it is into the tax year, tax rebates can push up the weekly income of the jobless by as much as £10.66 for the few weeks that they last.

After a year on the dole the right to unemployment benefit stops. Supplementary benefit (which may also be used to top up the flat rate benefit) is then the only state financial prop.

But the unemployed never qualify for the higher and more roughly rising long-term benefits which ordinary claimants receive after two years on benefit, the sick and disabled after six months, and retirement pensioners immediately.

In the latest report of the Supplementary Benefit Commission, attention was drawn to the increased number of unemployed family men receiving benefit.

It has been estimated that roughly a half of those on the dole are also claiming benefit to bring their incomes up to the official poverty line, while a further 50,000 are eligible for but not claiming benefit. This will be equal to £33.45 a week for a married couple with two children between five and eleven and £14.50 for a single person after the benefit uprating next month.

Flat rate unemployment benefit where rent is not automatically covered will be £14.70 for a single person and with child benefits included, £30.80 a week for a married couple with two children.

Between the end of 1975 and the beginning of this year there has been a near doubling to 114,000 in the number of married men on supplementary benefit who have been out of work for more than a year. The number of their dependent children has gone up from 41,000 to over 60,000.

As the chart shows, the general labourers and unskilled workers who make up the great majority of the unemployed have a far higher proportion of long-term jobless among them than do other occupations.

Only 12 per cent of managers and professionals had been unemployed for more than a year when the Department of Employment carried out the survey on which the chart is based, and only 12.5 per cent of craftsmen (including engineers).

Over half of the general labourers had been without work for more than six months, and nearly a third for over a year.

Some regions are worse hit than others. A comparison of

the unemployed men in their 20s and 30s in different parts of the country shows that the North-west and Wales are particularly hard hit.

Although they account for 15 per cent and 5.8 per cent respectively of all the unemployed men in Great Britain they have 21 per cent and 7.2 per cent of the 20 to 39-year-old men who have been jobless for more than a year, and 16 per cent and 6.2 per cent of those on the register for between 6 and 12 months. Scotland and the North also have a bigger share of these long-term jobless than of the total unemployed.

On the other hand the South-east, where a quarter of all unemployed men live, has only 19 per cent of the hard core unemployed in this age group. East Anglia, the East Midlands, East Anglia, the East Midlands, and the South-west regions also have less than average long-term unemployment.

With the present depressed state of the labour market likely to continue for at least the next year the long-term unemployed stuck on the unemployment register for more than six months, will go on rising. There is some evidence that a long period of unemployment makes finding a job even more difficult.

Those who have been out of work for several months tend to be viewed with suspicion by employers, sent to fewer job interviews by their local job centres, and to become more demoralized and less enthusiastic about job hunting themselves.

In the 1930s attention focused first on youth unemployment. But as the depression deepened it switched to the long-term unemployed. The Government has now begun to concentrate some special aid on this group. More should be done, both to alleviate financial hardship and to improve their job prospects.

Unfortunately the only really effective way to do this is to probably to boost demand overall, and the Government cannot go far along that road without running into constraints on its borrowing requirement and fears of renewed inflation.

More important was the feeling that Hawaii was being

Spectre of Pearl Harbour haunts Hawaii

A new surge of Japanese investment in Hawaii seems to be mounting off Oahu, partly as a result of Japanese economic recovery, partly a response to tightening American attitudes on trade relations.

Another factor is the United States trade imbalance which has hit Hawaii hard. (The value of imported products has increased from \$46.5m (£26.2m) in 1966 to \$465.6m (£262m) in 1976 and will rise again this year.)

Japanese investment in Hawaii reached \$250m in 1972. (All other foreign investment totalled \$275m that year.) In 1976 it had gone up to \$350m and will rise again in 1977.

But there have been complications. One of these was a severe backlash in 1973 by Hawaii residents, who feared the islands would be taken over by an invasion of capital to do what Japan had begun at Pearl Harbour in 1941.

A survey authorized by the legislature showed that most Hawaii residents in 1974 opposed further Japanese investment in the islands. This was in part a reaction to Japanese purchases of hotels, for between 6 and 12 months. Scotland and the North also have a bigger share of these long-term jobless than of the total unemployed.

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More important was the feeling that Hawaii was being

hedged in, Hawaii real estate prices are far lower than Japanese. In Waikiki, for example, the going rate is about \$9m per acre as opposed to \$65m in Tokyo. So Japanese investors bought all the land they could find.

The Japanese Mauna Loa land company bought several thousand acres on the big island of Hawaii, Mitsubishi Estate Corporation, Asahi Tokyu of Osaka, and Wharby-Gumi bought \$15m worth of land on Oahu, Kauai and Hawaii. The Tokai Land Company bought a famous old public golf course above Pearl Harbour, and turned it into a Japanese country club. That did not help local tempers.

More and more companies bought hotels in the islands. Tokyu and Tokyo Broadcasting Company bought the 690 room Regent Hotel and Denny's Imperial. Kotoku Keikoku Company bought a big department store here (McInerney's) and 4,000 acres of beach front land on Maui. And so it went. By 1974 there were some 100 Japanese, none of them small.

The energy crisis brought a respite in the purchasing, and Hawaii residents assessed what had happened. When asked how they felt about it, the white inhabitants were evenly divided for and against. Hawaiian natives were against it, too. One Chinese-American was opposed four to one, and Japanese-Americans were favourable to continued Japanese investment only by a hair-thin margin.

Today, Governor George Ariyoshi, a Japanese-American himself, advocates a go-slow on investment. He wants Japanese money for aquaculture and industries in the new technologies, oceanography, diversified agriculture, forestry, and the like. He wants tourism held down, and also real estate investment.

But there is the rub. The sugar crisis, cutbacks in federal spending, and generally poor business conditions have made Hawaii one of the highest unemployment areas in the United States. The tourist business is Hawaii's only growth industry, and it depends on constant expansion and revitalization of tourist facilities.

Mayor Frank Fasi of Honolulu who is contesting Ariyoshi's seat next year, advocates encouragement of tourism and foreign investment.

The governor and many others want to control population and expansion, but even they have seen that such a course leads to stagnation and then decline. The balance of payments is the key, and while Hawaii has an income of \$4,500m its expenditure is running closer to \$5,000m. That is where the Japanese may come back in.

Edwin P. Hoyt

Business Diary: Bison's new mould • Air travellers' Hope

Kenneth Wood has grown

ed over the years to blank expressions when he tells people that he is chairman of the National Chemical Industry, a Saudi Arabian trading and manufacturing company. Its chairman is 30-year-old Muhammad Y. al-Bedai, who served in the Royal Air Force and now owns a house in London and is described by Jones, NCI vice-president of United Kingdom operations, as strong Anglophile.

Some Bison staff are already Saudi Arabia, where NCI recently completed a contract 23 schools and is now working on a further seven. Naturally Bison will be looking for more in the Saudi action, but Kenneth told Business Diary that the company's activities overseas would not change in service to owners at home.

In the United Kingdom it remains "business as usual" although perhaps rather of it than has been used

lately." Nigel Foulkes, chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority, is to be congratulated on stepping down from the chair of the Airline Users' Committee in favour of the deputy chairman of the committee, Sir Archibald Hope.

It always seemed strange that the chairman of the government agency (the CAA) with the job of regulating the whole civil air transport industry should also oversee the AUC.

The committee looks after the interests of passengers and deals with complaints of those who feel aggrieved by the way that they have been treated by airlines—after attempts to get redress from the airlines have failed.

Sir Archibald certainly has the correct qualifications to take over the AUC. He has worked in the aircraft manufacturing industry, is a frequent business traveller with the Airline, is a member of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators, and a past chairman of the air transport committee of the



Sir Archibald Hope.



Hollowood

"Be reasonable dear, Healey can't have one eye on the election, another on the IMF and yet another on the unions."

British national committee of the International Chamber of Commerce. Whether he can make the AUC into a truly independent watchdog body with teeth remains to be seen.

Unscrupulous employers are abusing the Government's Training Opportunities Scheme (TOS), according to Bernard Marks, chairman of the Airline Users' Bureau.

Their play works like this, he claims: they terminate, by agreement, the employment of a junior clerk, who then applies for a TOS course, where he or she is paid on a tax-free basis by the state. The person is then taken back by the company when the course ends.

Not is this the only abuse of the scheme, says Marks in the bureau's *Survey of Secretarial and Clerical Salaries* published yesterday, although he is careful to praise the contribution of the scheme in improving the supply of skilled secretaries.

Many people on courses "appear to be the wives of

business executives and professional men who are clearly 'doing it for the money' (about £30 per week, plus subsidized travel, plus 40p per day in luncheon vouchers—all tax free, of course)." A TOPS spokesman said yesterday that abuses existed only on a small scale. Employers would be discouraged from working their play because they would probably have to pay out to fill a vacancy.

Potential time-wasters, who had no intention of using their new skills, would be dissuaded by the intensive nature of the courses, which last between 10 and 36 weeks.

How to set up an international barter deal without ending up with a pile of goods you cannot sell will be one theme explored in London today by Harry Neustein, a 69-year-old New Yorker who built up and in the States sold a large petrochemical business.

Now he says he works be-

cause he likes it instead of having to do so.

Neustein, self-styled "gypsy trader" and millionaire, will be explaining the growing role of bartering deals in international trade to an audience of company executives from around Europe at a seminar organized by AMR International and *EuroMoney* magazine at the Grosvenor House Hotel. It goes on tomorrow.

Pure barter still happens, says Neustein. Iran and Indonesia particularly like to swap oil direct for what they buy in the industrialized countries. It can get more complicated as in one Japanese deal: tanning material bought in Russia was used in the Argentine to barter for plastic goods that were sold for cash in the United States.

Neustein hires himself out to companies which want to put together barter deals, particularly in sorting out the problem of finding customers all along the chain.

Neustein has his doubts at the moment about taking methanol, the plastics feedstock, from Russia; saffron, gold or a mineral asset would be a better bet, he reckons.

Directions for use on Bob Martin's "Pestroy" state: "Dogs, rats, rabbits, etc. See the cat is drp. Comb for the wrong way, dusting Pestroy close to skin. After 30 minutes brush out. Work in open air and do not let animal inhale the dust..." Perhaps there are people who wish to ensure that rats are pest-free, although more probably Bob Martin meant to say cats.



"The figures demonstrate the strength of Decca...
...I see a great future."

Sir Edward Lewis

SUMMARY OF RESULTS			
Year ended 31st March		1977	1976
Group turnover		£2000	£2000
Exports		181,400	170,000
Profit before tax		51,800	49,100
Net profit attributable		15,888	13,595
Ordinary and "A" Ordinary Dividends		2,004	1,794
Increase in Reserves (including effect of currency changes)		5,549	4,736

At the Annual General Meeting yesterday Sir Edward Lewis spoke of Decca's increased profits and exports and of the increasing importance of the Company's capital goods which contributed £15.9 million to pre-interest profits, an increase of 52%.

He referred to the great strength of the Decca Navigator system and to the continued success of Decca radar, survey and avionics and stressed the importance of electronic warfare as a major growth area.

Sir Edward expected group results for the first six months of the current year to be comparable with last year with, as he saw it now, an increase in profits for this year as a whole. Looking to the future, he reminded shareholders of Decca's abundance of ideas and resources. He believed the maintenance of Decca's independence had been and would continue to be in the best interest of consumers, employees, shareholders and the industries in which they were engaged.

Decca had a loyal and dedicated management and staff to whom he offered his warmest thanks. With their talents and the will to succeed he was confident of the future.

Copies of the Chairman's full speech can be obtained from the Secretary, 9 Albert Embankment, SE1 7SW.

Property

Properties under £25,000

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Selection of 3 luxury 1-bedroom flats available in this 1960s purpose-built block. Situated within easy reach of Westminster and Victoria. With excellent views of the River Thames. Amenities include portage, entry phone, lifts, c.h.w., low outgoings and long leases.

Prices from £16,500 to £22,000

289 Brompton Road, S.W.3.
01-884 8885

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A large room 15ft. by 21ft. with full sky light. It is part of a purpose built studio complex where other artists work. On side of the studio is completely made up of windows. Facilities include night storage heating, telephone, water heater and sink and use of toilet. This is an ideal work place for a professional artist. Lease renewable.

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PARKHURST & CO.,
THE KINGWAY, SWANSEA.
TEL. 41481

SWANSEA/MUMBLES

Sunny terraced house in seaside village. Situated in quiet street. Two minutes walk from beach. Two bedrooms. Freehold. Small garden with patio view. £12,500.

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Attractive flat-fronted terrace house with 2 bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom, and living room. Small garden. Freehold. £12,500.

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Tel. 07816 71237.

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PROPERTY also on page 30

Property

also on pages 28 and 29

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Appointments Vacant also on page 16

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AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

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SENIOR SCIENTIFIC OFFICER

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THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL

needs an experienced SUB-EDITOR capable of working under pressure, to edit copy and proof-read pages. Pleasant informal atmosphere. Please send details to: THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL, A QUEEN ANNE'S GATE, LONDON SW1H 9BQ.

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

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GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Applications are invited for a Graduate Research Assistant to join the research group in the Department of Physiology, Guy's Hospital Medical School, London SE1 1UL. The research group is concerned with the study of the effects of exercise on the cardiovascular system. The successful candidate will be required to assist in the collection and analysis of data, and to prepare reports and presentations. The salary will be in the range of £4,000-£5,000 p.a. plus a pension. Applications should be sent to: The Director of the Department of Physiology, Guy's Hospital Medical School, London SE1 1UL.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

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Applications are invited for the Chair of Geography, which will be held by a person of high academic standing and with a strong commitment to research and teaching. The successful candidate will be required to lead the Department of Geography, and to be responsible for the recruitment and development of staff and students. The salary will be in the range of £10,000-£15,000 p.a. plus a pension. Applications should be sent to: The Director of the Department of Geography, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

REGISTRAR'S DEPARTMENT

Applications are invited for two posts of Registrar's Assistant in the Registrar's Department, Nottingham. The successful candidates will be required to assist in the processing of applications for admission to the University, and to be responsible for the maintenance of the University's records. The salary will be in the range of £4,000-£5,000 p.a. plus a pension. Applications should be sent to: The Registrar, The University of Nottingham, Nottingham NG7 2RD.

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P.A./Non-Secretarial
£6,000 P.A. (very negotiable)

West Greek businessman offers unique opportunity to work with him in Greece, and travel abroad, to an intelligent, sophisticated and articulate P.A. An excellent English speaker and first class vocabulary are essential. (His English is already good but his aim is for perfection.) The ideal candidate should be aged 25-35, fluent in Greek, business minded, well grounded and excellent driver. Travel, travelling and accommodation expenses will be paid. For further details please telephone Madeline on 584 2201.

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Operating from central London

Directors need bright

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A good knowledge of German is required by the Secretary to the General Manager of this International Company. Emphasis is placed on efficiency and initiative in being able to handle matters during G.M.s. absence and there is a good deal of administrative work and customer contact. Age preferred over 25. Excellent conditions. Contact: Mrs. Jo Armit 01-235 9984

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Applications are welcome from both men and women.

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Of English mother tongue with a good working knowledge of German is required for the London Manager of Union Bank of Switzerland, located in the City. Previous experience at executive level essential for this challenging position where administrative ability is at least as important as the usual secretarial skills. Knowledge of French also an advantage.

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Dynamic, young, people-oriented International Company offers this unique position to a person with a good knowledge of the personnel field and a strong desire to advance in their career. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment and selection of staff in various departments. An office background and/or marketing experience would be a plus, but we're open to suggestion and it all depends on you.

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experience would be put to good use in this small City firm. Managers' office with which investments are made through all the major stock markets in the world. As P.A./Secretary to the Director, you'd be involved in the back-up and follow-up work concerned with this. Very little shorthand—mostly telephone and telex. 25s. Negotiable is £4,800.

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One of the largest companies in the world, American over 100,000 employees, is looking for a Secretary/Personnel Assistant. Job involves recruitment of secretarial and clerical staff, both permanent and temporary. Clerical Administration of Personnel Department for approximately 120 staff, keeping time/record cards, etc. Young, friendly atmosphere. Own office, L.B.M. Goldhill, 3 weeks holiday, 30p L.V.s. Salary review after qualifying period.

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Secretary/PA required for young Managing Director. Must be young (20-28), sophisticated, vivacious, intelligent and well presented. Must also be prepared to work long hours and become involved in an interesting job. Possibility of company motor-car or allowance for suitable applicant. Applicants should preferably live in Central London.

Salary around £5,500

Please send details of age, qualifications, experience and a recent photograph if possible.

Write to Box 2785 J, The Times, in strictest confidence.

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£4,500

Confidential Secretary required for Managing Director of public Property Company in West End. Salary £4,500.

Must be competent with excellent shorthand/typing, together with ability to deal with appointments, correspondence, routine matters and able to work on own initiative. Write giving full details of experience in the first instance to Box 2773 J, The Times. Under reference W.M.D.

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£4,500

The newly appointed Chief Executive of the London operation in this large bank is looking for a young, friendly, well educated P.A. who will be responsible for the office and be a good administrator.

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Ring Mrs. Pegg on 499 9663

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To join young firm in architecture department. Good secretarial skills essential plus an interest in admin. work. Salary scale £3,352 to £4,230 p.a. Hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 4 weeks holiday.

For details contact Rosemary

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SECRETARY/PA (20s) in Personnel, International Co., EC4 with prospects.

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Telephone Mrs. Howell, 427 5171/487 5237

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Requires experienced and efficient person to run small shop. Salary and commission by agreement. To start immediately.

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The Personal Secretary will be responsible for the organisation of the Rector's office. Candidates should have considerable secretarial experience at a senior level, first class secretarial skills, good organising ability, including the arrangement of social functions, the personality to deal with people at all levels and the capacity to cope equally under pressure with a wide range of interesting but demanding business. The Secretary should be prepared to work outside normal office hours according to the requirements of the duties. The post will become vacant early in 1978.

Starting salary will be not less than £4,400 per annum contributory pension scheme, 4 weeks' holiday in addition to normal college closures (1 week) at Christmas and Easter.

Further particulars and application form from Sir Brian Flowers, F.R.S., Rector, Imperial College of Science and Technology, London SW7 2BZ, to whom applications should be sent to arrive not later than 22 November, 1977.

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For Advertising Director

Lively advertising agency near Chancery

Lane tube needs happy, intelligent, educated

Secretary for one of its Directors. Pace

variable, atmosphere friendly.

Mornings, 5 days a week.

Please telephone Steven Atkin

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£4,000

The Deputy Chairman of a large international com-

pany is looking for a very special Secretary with good

skills who would like to organise his hectic social

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office is lovely and overlooks the Thames in SW1.

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Not a glorified Secretarial Position

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Top International Computer Service Company urgently

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Experienced Secretary with fast, accurate

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Could you keep tabs on two

